

the chronicle

Timely reminder



At 1am
Sunday 25th
your clocks go
forward
one hour
to 2am

Church crisis

Meeting to discuss
regeneration scheme

See Page 7

Win a day out

Chance to pick up a
penguin pass to park

See Page 14

Sport skills

Football club back
scheme for jobless

See Page 56



Trust face fine after death fall

AN NHS trust is facing a hefty fine for breaching health and safety laws after an elderly patient fell out of a window at Walsall Manor Hospital and died.

Harry Riley, of Walsall Wood, fell more than 20ft from a first floor window and died of multiple injuries, Walsall Magistrates heard.

Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust is being prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive and admitted failing to carry out a risk assessment.

Mr Adam Farrer, prosecuting, said the 71-year-old, of Poxon Road, had been admitted to hospital in January 2009 after suffering a stroke. Mr Riley had been in an assessment unit.

Mr Farrer said Mr Riley's wife, Ann, had described him as a "bit confused", although nursing staff did not find this to be the case. He had been spending his second night at the hospital when the fall happened.

Mr Farrer said Mr Riley got out of bed just before midnight and disconnected himself from a drip before he plunged "20-or-so feet" out of a window.

Mr Farrer told the court the hospital trust had failed to carry out a risk assessment, adding: "The upper window did not have a restrictor fitted to it."

Regulations

Safety regulations state the window should not have been allowed to open more than 10cm.

Mr Bernard Thorogood represented the hospital trust during Monday's hearing and entered a guilty plea to breaching a regulation of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 between January 1, 2000, and January 20, 2009.

The case was committed to Wolverhampton Crown Court for sentence on May 1.

Black Country Coroner Robin Balmain recorded an open verdict at Mr Riley's inquest in May 2010.

Rugby club rebuild

WORK will start soon on rebuilding blaze-wrecked Aldridge Rugby Club HQ.

See Page 3

DELIGHT AT JOBS BOOST FOR TOWN

MORE than 100 new jobs are to be created in Walsall and Willenhall by two growing firms.

Electrical installation company Eco-1 Electrical Solutions Ltd, in Aldridge, is to create 100 jobs over the next year, bosses have revealed. It comes as the firm is on track to turn over £5 million this year, despite launching just seven months ago.

Meanwhile, scrap metal company Cable & Alloys has unveiled plans for 12 new jobs with the creation of an electrical and mattress recycling complex in Willenhall.

Bosses plan to convert a vacant site in Springfield Street.

Councillors welcomed the jobs boost for the borough.

Regeneration chief Councillor Adrian Andrew said: "This is yet another example of Walsall bucking the trend with job creation."

"It is clear there is growth and recovery at the moment and much of it is in the Walsall borough."

"I am delighted about it. I would like to thank people for investing in our town and have the faith and confidence in our borough."

Eco-1 Electrical Solutions is based in Wharf Approach, Aldridge, but is poised to move to new offices being built at the former Aldridge Magistrates' Court. It is expected to complete the move on July 1.

Legal threat over repairs

TRUSTEES of an outdoor centre are threatening legal action against Walsall Council over a £500,000 repairs bill.

The council ended its partnership with the Bryntysilio centre in North Wales last year to save cash, throwing its future into doubt. But the trustees have since agreed a partnership with the charity Wide Horizons to continue its work.

The trustees say they are facing a huge repair bill from the time when the authority leased its buildings and have only been offered part of this by the council.

Councillor Bird said: "Cabinet agreed in November that we should pay dilapidations at the level set by external advisors and this is still the case."

Mother's charity race rally cry



Mum's the word - Mandy Walker encourages participation in Race for Life with, from left, daughters Lydia Dykes, Bethany Dykes and step-daughter Harriet Walker

A CANCER survivor from Walsall is calling on women across the region to sign up for this year's fundraising Race for Life.

Mother-of-three Mandy Walker has issued a rallying cry to other mothers, daughters, sisters and their friends to get ready to put on their trainers for the annual event on Sunday, June 10, at 11am.

Test

The 51-year-old, who runs Walsall business Pegasus Medical with husband Jim, has battled cancer herself after a routine test in 2007.

Mandy had a full hysterectomy but did not need any more treatment as the cancer had not spread.

Race for Life for Cancer Research UK will take place at Walsall Arboretum. Call 0871 641 1111 for further details.

Borough on torch route

THOUSANDS of people are expected to line the streets of Walsall when the Olympic Torch passes through on June 30.

It will go through Bloxwich, Leamore and Birchills then into the town centre, along the ring road, into Lichfield Street, Park Street and Gallery Square.

Walsall leisure chief Anthony Harris said it was a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" for residents.

Campaign will carry on to save green belt

CAMPAGNERS fighting against plans to build homes on green belt land in Walsall have vowed to continue their battle after a decision on the proposal was deferred.

The controversial multi-million pound scheme would see open space in Blakenall, known as The Lea, built on and the former Goscole estate converted to green belt in a "land swap" deal.

Councillors voted to postpone a decision on whether to approve the outline plans at its meeting last week (see page 5) to allow more consultation to take place.

The campaign group set up in the weeks prior to the meeting, which has raised a 273-name petition in opposition to the plans, say they will "fight to the end" to ensure The Lea remains green belt land.

Pete Smith, a resident and former councillor who helped set up the group, said: "We are going to fight vociferously against any proposals to build on The Lea. We are going to fight until such time that we have persuaded the council to build on brown field sites and that there needs to be a fair mix of properties."

"We only had three weeks to do something before but now we have a bit of breathing space."

The proposal was put off for ecology reports and further consultation.

Protesters hail victory

A PROTEST march against plans for a probation hostel in Moxley turned into a victory parade on Saturday after Walsall Council made clear it's opposition to the proposal.

Walsall regeneration boss Councillor Adrian Andrew said the land at the former Moxley Infants School should be used for housing instead.

See Page 5

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CONTENTS

Peter Rhodes	4
Clubs	18
Memory Lane	22
Letters	23
TV Listings	29-31
Puzzles	32
Property	33-45
Motoring	46-49
Classified	50-54
Sport	55-56

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Shop's booze ban goes to appeal

A BID to allow a vacant shop to start selling booze in an area of Walsall plagued by anti-social behaviour has gone to appeal after it was thrown out by councillors.

A developer had applied to change the planning conditions for the shop in Essington Road and remove conditions that the shop cannot sell alcohol.

But the police and families living

nearby objected to the plans amid fears that the ongoing problem of yobbish behaviour would be made worse. Councillors backed them by turning down the application.

The premises are on the corner of Essington Road and Baynton Road.

Inspectorate

Councillor Ian Shires said he hoped that the planning inspectorate would take the same view as

the police and the council on the issue.

He said: "There is a lot of anti-social behaviour that is drink-related and a lot of effort has been put in by various agencies over the past 12 to 18 months. A lot of effort, time and money has gone into to try to resolve the situation.

"The main objectors are the police, they put in a piece to the

council to say that they were opposed to it, and that was taken into account. This just means that the resources we have are going to be stretched. The police have got enough to do."

He added: "There are at least half a dozen alcohol outlets within easy reach, and they just don't need another one. We have to draw a line somewhere."

£6m training centre is open on college campus

A NEW multi-million pound learning and training centre has opened in Walsall.

The Innovation Centre with modern conference facilities has been built on the Alumwell Business and Enterprise College campus.

The £6 million building, formerly referred to as the Healthtech, is to be used by secondary students from around the borough.

It includes a state-of-the-art health suite complete with an ambulance entrance and an assessment and treatment area, providing a 'real life' health care environment for students.

Walsall Council is in discussion with health providers to develop new learning opportunities.

St Thomas of Canterbury School, in Dartmouth Avenue, is hoping to create a front extension, lobby and secretary's office as well as a new classroom at the rear. A link would also be created between the nursery and reception classrooms.

An application to planners says the school lacks a proper security lobby which under current legislation is "not acceptable".

Small

One of the current classrooms has also been branded "very small".

There is no plan to increase pupil numbers at the school.

Play areas at the school will be unaffected by the changes, while the creation of a link between nursery and reception areas will help create an enclosed area."

For more information or booking enquiries, call college business centre manager Mo Loonan on 01922 720741.

Awards night

TICKETS are available for the Walsall FC end of season awards evening at the Banks's Stadium on May 16. Josh Daniels will entertain and there is a three-course meal. Tickets are £30 per person available from the Banks's Stadium or by calling 01922 651414.

Jobs saved as store reopens



Sales assistant Wayida Kausar, assistant manager Michelle Russell and manager Lorena Betts celebrate the Bonmarche store in Digbeth, Walsall, being saved

FIVE jobs have been saved after a long-running clothing store in Walsall town centre was granted a reprieve, allowing it to stay open.

Workers at Bonmarche, in Digbeth, were devastated when they were told in January that the store was among hundreds set to close when the chain was bought by a new owner.

All the stock had been cleared out of the store, which has been in the town centre for

almost 19 years. But it was granted a last-minute reprieve three weeks ago after a deal was negotiated with the landlords.

The shop closed for three days last week to restock with spring and summer fashions.

It has now reopened to customers, and staff want to stress that it is business as usual despite closing down signs in the windows just days ago.

Cannabis factory found at home of drug user

A CANNABIS factory was discovered at a Walsall home after its occupant was arrested for trying to sell bags of the drug at a railway station car park near Cannock, Stafford Crown Court heard.

Karl Hodgkins was arrested at Landywood train station when he was spotted handing over a bag of cannabis to a man, the court was told.

Police later searched the 31-year-old's home in Jessel Road where 13 plants and four pots with plant debris were found in two bedrooms which had been converted into cannabis growing rooms with hydroponic systems.

Hodgkins was jailed for 13 months last week after admitting possessing drugs with intent to supply and producing cannabis, along with breaching a suspended prison sentence.

Arthritis

Mr Paul Farrow, prosecuting, said that the 13 plants had yielded more than £10,000 annually.

Mr Farrow said Hodgkins told police he was a heavy cannabis user and was growing it because he had no money.

The set-up had cost him £500.

Miss Rhona Campbell, defending, said Hodgkins had arthritis and turned to cannabis as self-medication.

"You are not presented with a callous, professional criminal," she said.

New library on schedule

WALSALL'S new £4 million library and health complex is on schedule to be completed later this year.

Windows are being fitted following the roof being secured on the complex, which will feature doctors' surgeries, a children's centre and a library.

It is being built on the former library site in Pelsall High Street, alongside Pelsall Common.

Mayor Councillor Garry Perry said: "It's an exciting phase and an exciting year. I think we will have first class service for our community."

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A COUPLE from Walsall will be opening their energy efficient home up to the public so they can pick up tips and advice.

Martin and Jane Norman, of Gorway Road, first started boosting the energy saving measures at their Walsall home in 1999. Their house has become known as a "super home."

Open days will be held tomorrow (Friday) from 2pm to 6pm, Saturday (March 24) from 10am to 5pm and Sunday (March 25) from 1pm to 5pm.

Call 01922 612625 for further details

Ballet on the big screen

CLASSIC ballet Romeo and Juliet will be beamed live from the Royal Opera House to Walsall's Showcase Cinema at Bentley Mill Way tonight (Thursday) at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available at £10, with students and members paying £7.

Donations to fund mission

WALSALL'S Green Lane Baptist Church last year raised a total of £1,115 towards Baptist Home Mission which funds ministers for small churches across the UK. Members raised the money from donations, a Christmas postbox project and saving boxes.

Youngsters from Rough Hay Primary went to see Slava's Snowshow just before Christmas and have used their own interpretation to recreate the performance, which involves an indoor blizzard.

A

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more campus after Easter.

Corporate bowl

HOLLYWOOD Bowl in Bentley Bridge is hosting a corporate night on Thursday, March 29, to raise funds for the neo-natal unit and children's wards at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton.

Funding advice

ADVICE on funding will be given to voluntary groups in Walsall next month. Walsall Voluntary Action will run the surgery at its Bridge Street office on April 4.

Depressed mother died after cellar fire

A MOTHER in Walsall died after her clothing caught fire, an inquest heard.

Zuban Nisa was discovered with burns after emergency services went to Rowley Street, Cheshire.

The hearing in Walsall was told that the 68-year-old had suffered depression.

Fire crews and paramedics were called and Mrs Nisa was airlifted to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital but died a short time later.

An investigation by West Midlands Fire Service found an empty bottle of white spirit and a box of matches in the basement.

Medication

Fire investigator Nigel Adams said the blaze was confined to the clothing Mrs Nisa was wearing.

Her son Asad Rahman told the hearing that Mrs Nisa had suffered from depression over a number of years and received medication.

Black Country coroner Robin Balmain said it was a "desperately sad" case.

Recording a narrative verdict, he said: "Mrs Nisa died whilst in the cellar of her home when her clothing caught fire.

"There are no suspicious circumstances."

MP hits out at shake-up of the NHS

A WALSALL MP has spoken out in the Commons against the Government's planned shake-up of the NHS.

The Health and Social Care Bill will see more responsibility given to GPs.

During the debate, Valerie Vaz, MP for Walsall South, claimed the Bill was causing confusion.

She said: "GPs in Walsall have written to me to say that they are disengaged and uninspired."

Dangerous

"GPs have no experience of a business model of this scale and the pace of change is dangerous."

"The NHS is an organisation in which miracles sometimes happen, which is why people are fighting to protect and save the very essence of its existence."

The debate followed an opposition motion after an petition attracted more than 170,000 signatures.

Homes plan is transforming canalside

THE SECOND phase of multi-million pound plans to transform the Brownhills canalside and build 80 new homes is under way.

The ambitious plans include improving the High Street by creating new residential developments and renovating nearby blocks of flats.

The second phase of the Walsall Housing Group scheme for 33 properties has started and includes a mix of houses and apartments.

The majority of the homes will be let by the housing group for "affordable" rent.

Another 47 homes are being created on the site and are due to be completed this summer.

More than £3 million is being spent on the regeneration plans near to the Wyrley and Essington Canal which are earmarked to all be finished by spring 2013.

Milestone

Carole Wildman, director of regeneration and development at the housing association, said: "Beginning phase two is a significant milestone in this cosmopolitan, canalside development.

"The scheme is taking shape as an attractive gateway into the town and will provide much-needed homes for Brownhills."

The improvements are within walking distance of the town centre and are being jointly funded by Walsall Housing Group and the Homes and Communities Agency.

The second phase of the housing scheme is being lead through partner's 'Mossells' Simon Liversage said: "We are delighted to be involved in such an important development, working in partnership with Walsall Housing Group to deliver new homes that are vital to the regeneration of this area."

Over the road from the site WHG are also making improvements to Humphries House and Severn House blocks of flats.

Carbon

They are transforming the blocks and reducing the carbon footprint of the buildings, which date back to the 1960s.

The programme includes fixing thermal cladding to the outside of the buildings, installing double glazed windows, replacing the roofs and internal decoration.

The project is on track to be finished by summer.

Funds help arson-hit rugby club HQ rise from the ashes

WORK to rebuild an arson-hit rugby club-house in Walsall will start in the coming weeks, nearly three years after fire ravaged the building.

Aldridge Rugby Club was destroyed in the blaze in 2009, and plans for a new £350,000 building and changing rooms were approved by planners last year.

The club got a £50,000 grant from Sport England last week and has also landed £70,000 of funding from the rugby union authorities.

This means work will soon begin at the Bourne Vale site.

Players have been unable to use their own ground for games for three seasons.

Chairman of the club Alex Reed said it had been a "frantic" few weeks but he was delighted that the club was able to be moving forward on the project.

He said: "We have everything pretty much in place to be able to start work and make some real progress."

"Hopefully we will have a new clubhouse before the start of the season."

The 22-week programme of works will result in a clubhouse with changing rooms, a meeting room, dining space, showers, toilets and a bar.

Mr Reed added: "It will be much better than the old clubhouse and more modern."

"It will be more accessible to a greater range of people with disabled access, which the old building never had."

"We will have individual changing rooms so we will be able to have mixed gender use."

Players have had to play at other grounds for the last two seasons after fire ripped through changing rooms and the bar area and destroyed kit and equipment worth more than £5,000 in July 2009.

'Trophy dog' concern

BLACK Country locations are among eight hotspots for dog attacks in the West Midlands, as revealed in a new report.

Willenhall, Halesowen, Wednesfield and West Bromwich have all been named in the report by Birmingham City Council.

The report named Kingstanding in Birmingham as the worst area with 43 cases in the past three years. The Glebe Farm, Acocks Green and Newton areas of the city make up the other worse areas.

There have been a number of high-profile dog attacks in the region in recent years.

The report said: "Over recent years, there has been an increase in ownership of Staffordshire Bull Terrier type dogs, with these being viewed by some sectors of the community as 'trophy' or status dogs.

"Whilst these can be excellent pets if properly trained, in the hands of irresponsible owners they have the potential to pose a disproportionately high danger to public safety."



Rough Hay pupils including Connor Jones, 11, perform their Snowshow inspired by a theatre trip to Birmingham Hippodrome to see Slava's Snowshow

Snow biz spectacle at school

CHILDREN at a Darlaston school have been putting on their own show after taking inspiration from a production at Birmingham Hippodrome.

Youngsters from Rough Hay Primary went to see Slava's Snowshow just before Christmas and have used their own interpretation to recreate the performance, which involves an indoor blizzard.

A total of 28 pupils aged nine to 11 had been rehearsing to put on a performance sing words mine, in the style of Russian clown Slava Polunin.

They received help from dance students at Walsall College and performed their show for parents, fellow pupils and children from other schools.

The youngsters are also set to perform at the Wiser-more campus after Easter.

Solar for flats

SOLAR panels will be fitted to a high-rise block of flats in Walsall under plans lodged with the council.

If the plans are given the go-ahead, Austin House, in Upper Forster Street, would have photovoltaic panels to generate additional power. The panels would be mounted on a steel frame and fixed directly to the external south elevation of the building.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



A READER tells me of research which suggests the leaves of a rare tropical fern may cure chronic constipation. Apparently with fronds like these you don't need enemas.



A NEW number-plate recognition system will automatically prevent drivers of untaxed or uninsured vehicles filling up at petrol stations. Clever scientists give us the technology and well-paid politicians give us the laws, but it's minimum-wage forecourt staff who end up getting thumped.



DEPUTY Prime Minister Nick Clegg was heard to remark that rich people paying low levels of tax were "literally in a different galaxy". No, they are not, Nick. At least not unless they have taken up residence many millions of light years away. "Literally" means the precise, literal meaning of a word or phrase. A singer does not literally bend over backwards to entertain us, but a contortionist does. Sadly, "literally" is becoming a meaningless word employed by people who like to appear educated but don't understand the texture, wit and richness of their own language.



IN THE old days we would collect our holiday snaps from the chemist and show them to our friends. Thanks to the miracle of the internet, we can now share them digitally. A friend, fresh back from a sailing trip, sends me his online gallery. Now the problem. In order to view it I must create an online account, giving my name and email address. Then dream up yet another password, confirm it, read the terms and conditions, tick the box saying I have read them and then tick the box declining future mailshots. Then, and only then, may I see the snaps. Sadly there is no tick-box marked: "Can't be arsed." Go on, tell me it's progress.



AIRLINES and shipping firms have stopped importing research animals following a Facebook campaign by animal-rights activists. So British research into dementia and other terrible diseases is now being dictated by people who seriously believe that the life of a human is no more important than that of a laboratory mouse. Welcome to the asylum.



A WORKING men's club in County Durham has threatened to expel a member for breaking wind. The flatulent offender protests: "In the past I've actually been awarded pints for clearing a bar at closing time when the landlord wanted everyone to leave." A hero, left behind by the wind of change.

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Songbird flying to LA to record

STRELLY songbird Connie Talbot will be travelling to Los Angeles later this month to record new material.

The 11-year-old's star shows no sign of waning as she continues to win over legions of fans across the globe. The schoolgirl has recently added a third world record to her collection after leading a choir of almost 7,000 children at the O2 arena in London.

Proud mother Sharon said the O2 was "bouncing" after Connie's rendi-

tion of chart-topping Adele's hit, Rolling In The Deep.

Her performances at the O2 was alongside the Young Voices, made up of primary-aged schoolchildren from London and surrounding counties.

Connie, who found fame on prime time TV show Britain's Got Talent, said: "It was definitely the best thing I've done. I wasn't expecting the reception I got, it was really good fun.

"I'd like to thank all the children who

sang with me." Choir member Kristin Daw, aged eight, said: "Connie was amazing and we were all really excited when she came out to sing."

The latest Guinness World Record follows her accolades as the youngest artist to make the British charts and the youngest to release a gold-selling record. It is now five years since Connie charmed the nation with her rendition of Somewhere Over the Rainbow on the TV talent show.



Singer Connie Talbot

Motorists facing more roadworks

MOTORISTS are warned of almost four months of traffic disruption to the north-east of Walsall borough as a major roadworks scheme gets under way.

It takes place on a main commuter route on the border of Walsall and Lichfield. The £500,000 upgrade project on the A454 Aldridge Road and part of the A452 Chester Road will start early next month and continue for around 16 weeks.

Staffordshire County Council, which is carrying out the work, says it will cause short-term problems for long-term benefit.

Crews will replace damaged kerbs and also rebuild the carriageway on the A452 between Chester Road and Forge Lane. The work will take place at 8am-5pm, Monday to Friday.

Traffic flows will initially be controlled using temporary traffic signals but there will also be a series of temporary road closures.

County Councillor Erica Bayliss insists the investment will improve the busy A452.

Motorists are also facing delays in Aldridge until the end of the month as part of a series of road resurfacing improvements. Work along Northgate, Walsall Wood Road and Coppice Lane is not expected to be finished until Monday, March 26.

Car parks on edge of town centre to charge

PARKING charges will be introduced on three car parks on the outskirts of Walsall town centre on April 1, highways chiefs have confirmed. The aim is to stop drivers clogging up spaces which are earmarked for businesses.

Moves to bring in £3-a-day fees and £30-a-month permits at the Town Wharf and Premier business parks have been in the pipeline for a number of months. The council says they will now come into force from the start of next month in the light of negotiations with firms in the area.

It is believed that some drivers have been parking for free and then heading by train to Birmingham city centre. It was initially hoped that charges would be introduced at Frederick Street, Charles Street and Brook Street at the start of the year but formal legal orders needed to be advertised.

Transport chief Councillor Tom Ansell said no formal objections were lodged against the plans.

Requested

He said: "We were requested by business people to bring some form of control over parking."

"There have been people going to work who couldn't find a place to park."

"We have some people parking there and walking off to the train station and going onto the train to Birmingham."

He added: "It hasn't been done as a money-making scheme but to relieve the problems that the businesses have got."

There have been similar concerns over vehicles being left at Tesco's car park in the town centre, prompting the council to review its planning permission.

The availability of free spaces has seen a slump in the use of council-owned sites nearer the heart of the town centre.

A review of parking spaces is now being carried out by transport bosses.

There has been a trial of cheaper prices as the council considers ways to maximise usage.

Feedback

"We are delighted with the feedback we have received regarding the self service terminals.

"We want to provide the best possible service we can to our customers and freeing up our staff to spend more time helping with everything from answering enquiries to running groups is very important to us."

To use the self-service terminals borrowers need to have their library card with them.

Award for boy who saved his mother

A FIVE-year-old boy was praised at the annual West Midland Ambulance Service awards. Despite speaking little English, Dennis Maczka acted quickly when his Polish mother collapsed at home in Walsall. He alerted neighbours who called ambulance crews. She made a full recovery.

Where there's a Will



Front Millie Osborne and Isabel McGauley watched by fellow pupils from St Michael's Primary School in Pelsall

YOUNGSTERS from six schools in Walsall put their own twist on a play written by William Shakespeare.

More than 170 pupils from St Michael's Primary and Ryders Hayes School, Pelsall Village School, Birchills Primary, Rushall JMI, and Blue Coat Comprehensive School were performing scenes from The Merchant of Venice at Leamore's Forest Arts Centre last week.

Parents, staff, governors and Walsall Mayor Councillor Garry Perry were invited to the event at Hawshill Road. The play was staged as part of a project with support of the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Joy Beddard, of St Michael's, said: "We've been able to put a twist on the settings. The wording is the same but we have edited the script to suit our children."

Homeless help

WALSALL Community Church is opening its doors every first weekend of the month to the homeless.

Clothing, food, shelter and showers will be available from the Bradford Street venue.

Donations of food and toiletries are now being sought.

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Benefits fraudster pocketed £32,5000

A MOTHER-of-three who pocketed more than £32,500 in a benefits con has been spared an immediate jail term.

Debi Dugmore from Bloxwich made a legitimate claim for state handouts when she was a single parent in April 2004, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard last week. But the 26-year-old did not tell officials when her partner, who worked as a fork lift truck driver, started living with her.

She continued to pick up housing benefit, income support and council tax relief to which she was not entitled, said prosecutor Miss Amritsha Parathalingam. The swindle netted Dugmore £32,669 in five years before she was found out.

She admitted that her partner had been working as a fork lift driver since October 2008 and his wages had been paid directly into her account.

Dugmore from Summerfield Road pleaded guilty to failing to notify a change of circumstances between October 2005 and January last year. She has started to repay the money and now owes £29,600.

She was given a six month jail sentence suspended under supervision for 18 months with a three month night time curfew by Recorder David Herbert.

Education move starts

THE first education services and up to 60 staff are on track to transfer back to Walsall Council from the start of April.

It is part of the phased switch following the axing of the £345 million deal with private sector firm Serco, which ends in summer 2013.

Serco came to Walsall in 2001 to improve poor standards in education.

Around 400 staff will eventually move back to the council. The initial four services transferring first are the education business partnership, Alumwell children's centre, disability assessment services and school finance.

The decision to end the Serco agreement was made last summer with the council citing "major changes to Government policy", such as the numbers of schools becoming go-it-alone academies.

Council want housing instead of hostel at school site

LAND suggested for a probation hostel in Moxley will be put on the market with a request that it be used for residential use, council chiefs says, in a move that will delight campaigning residents.

Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust said it was looking at the former Moxley Infants School in Moxley as the site for a potential hostel for up to 40 offenders.

The idea sparked controversy in the local community amid fears that the hostel could pose a threat and scupper future regeneration plans for the area. But Walsall regeneration chief Councillor Adrian Andrew said the land in Moxley Road would be put on the

market with a development brief that it should only be used for new homes.

He said: "We have listened to local people."

The former Moxley Infants' site and neighbouring open space in Festival Avenue will be marketed for sale for the first time.

The sale follows a path set out four years ago when the land was classified as "residential" following a council decision to declare the site surplus to its requirements.

Transparent

Councillor Andrew, Walsall Council Deputy Leader, said: "There has been a lot of speculation in the community about the

former Moxley Infants school site. It's important that we continue to be open and transparent with the options for this parcel of land.

"Four years ago, through the Moxley framework study that I initiated, we looked at how we could best regenerate Moxley after years of being ignored, this land was identified as a potential residential opportunity."

"I can confirm that it has never been our intention to sell the land for any other purpose other than for new homes, and therefore it is not our intention to sell the site to the Probation Trust for their

intended purposes. Our preferred scheme is family housing and we think this site could provide up to 50 new homes."

Consulted

A development brief which sets out the guidance for the future use of the site is now being completed following earlier work and will be consulted on with members of the local community.

"Walsall Council will then look to market the site from late April with bids being reported to the council's cabinet and the new purchaser preparing a planning application for their scheme."

Decision on 700 homes plan for green belt site deferred

A DECISION on a 700-home redevelopment of land in Walsall has been deferred after council chiefs demanded a fresh look at plans.

Applause rang out in the Walsall Council chamber as the announcement was made in front of 20 campaigning residents. The multi-million pound scheme, which would see

green belt land known as The Lea in Blakenall built upon, went before a committee meeting last week.

The plans involve a "land swap" deal where the former Goscote estate would be turned over to green belt and The Lea used for homes.

Nearly 300 people signed a petition against the plan as they wanted to retain The Lea as open space and want more affordable homes. After hearing their concerns, the committee said the scheme should go back for more consultation.

Ecology

It will be back before planners by the end of June after applicant WHG has conducted further ecology reports, consulted more widely and considered whether the mix of homes proposed can be altered.

Kevin Wall, aged 68, of High Road, who spoke against the plans, said: "I'm very pleased with the decision. I shall be even more pleased if they come back and say they are building on the Goscote estate instead of The Lea."

Offenders clear site for growing

OFFENDERS under supervision have cleared land for 20 new allotment plots at Victoria Road, Darlaston, as part of the Probation Service's Community Payback scheme. Plot holders have now been given keys to the site.

Picture perfect view from a window



Just passing through – an abseiler slides past an exhibition at The New Art Gallery Picture by Tim Sturgess

IT looks just like another elaborate painting displayed on the wall of the iconic New Art Gallery in Walsall town centre.

But the portrait "work of art" is in fact the view of an abseiler making his way down the outside of the building to

raise much-needed funds for charity.

It is a snapshot of just one of more than 100 members of staff from Walsall Manor Hospital who left their wards and offices work for a few hours last week to queue up for their turn to sail down the side of the 80ft gallery.

During the day, which aimed to raise awareness of No Smoking Day and also raise cash for the British Heart Foundation, there was also face painting, balloon making and a dance performance at the Gallery Square venue to boost funds.

Work starts on the jubilee bunting

ADULTS and children across Walsall can join craft workshops making bunting to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee this summer.

Staff at Walsall Museum are holding a free craft event for adults today (Thursday) from 12.30pm and children will get their turn on April 12. Jennifer Thomson, community history curator, said: "People will have the opportunity to decorate their pennants to their own design or use a decorative theme suggested by museum staff."

At the end of the session Walsall will be able to boast some exclusive and original bunting that not only boosts the town but showcases the creativity that is in our borough.

"All the bunting made in the workshop will be sewn together and strung up around the town centre in late May."

Places are limited so contact the museum on (01922) 653116. Volunteers are needed to help sew the bunting. Any willing helpers with sewing machines can call Olivia Clymer on 655382.

NEWS

in brief

Meal and music to help hospice

A FUNDRAISING lunch is being held to mark the first anniversary of a hospice in Walsall.

The special meal to mark the occasion for St Giles Walsall Hospice, in Goscole Lane, will be held at the Fairlawns Hotel and Spa in Aldridge on Sunday, April 22, at 12.30pm.

The event will include a three-course lunch and entertainment from local musicians.

Tickets cost £25 and the proceeds will go to the hospice.

To book tickets call Jenny Chin on (01922) 602520.

Electronic signs are on the way

DISCUSSIONS are taking place on the location of new electronic signs to divert drivers to parking spaces in Walsall.

The £300,000 Government-backed scheme is for the installation of six town centre signs. It is hoped they will be in place soon as Walsall Council is deciding where to place them.

Cash for the project is from the Department for Transport.

Old boys to get back together

FORMER members of the Walsall Wood Boys' Brigade are holding their next reunion later this month.

It takes place at Walsall Wood FC, Lichfield Road, on Friday, March 30, from 7.30pm.

It will see ex-members from the 1950s and 60s come together. Call 01543 459216 for further details.

Supermarket's team booster

AN under-16s football team has been given a £250 cheque by a supermarket in Walsall.

Sainsbury's in Reedswood Way donated the cheque to the under-16s Bustle Holme Villa FC.

Store ambassador Barbara King donated the cheque to the young players.

Roll out the barrel

PREPARATIONS are under way for the 31st annual beer festival in Walsall, at Walsall Town Hall, from April 12 to 14 with more than 100 ales and ciders to sup.



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thechronicle

Garden gallery to show borough's artistic talent

A £50,000 GALLERY garden for artists, photographers and school pupils to display their work is to be created at Walsall Arboretum.

Students from Wolverhampton College's Cedars Horticultural Centre are working on the project.

More than 400 people signed a petition in support of a gallery garden at the arboretum, which is undergoing a £7.6 million revamp. Jackie Cocken and Jo Lester of the Arboretum User Group were behind the application and are responsible for the delivery of the project.

Contractor Jack Moody is set to begin work on the garden gallery off Lichfield Road next month and has already been working with the students on preparations.

Mrs Cocken said: "We are so excited about the gallery garden and can't wait to see the finished project. It is a showcase for local people of all ages and abilities. We want to bring art from the people to the people as well as encourage visitors to come into the Arboretum and enjoy it."

Mrs Lester said: "We are going to have double-sided display cases to showcase paintings, drawings and poems and a plinth which we

can use for sculptures and art work. The project is due to be finished in June and we're confident it will be a real asset to the Arboretum and Walsall."

Terraced

Part of the garden will be earmarked for design students and Walsall wood carver Graham Jones is designing a bespoke, hand-carved bench. Visitors will be able to enjoy a walk around the outdoor gallery. Shrubs and trees will be planted, a terraced area will be made of reclaimed rocks, and the Liz Lemon sculpture will be relocated.

Leisure chief Anthony Harris said: "I'm delighted that work will start soon and know that the combined driving force and enthusiasm of Jackie and Jo will ensure this project is a success. We will be able to maximise the gallery garden's potential as part of our Diamond Jubilee celebrations."

Measuring up for run



Members of Aldridge Running Club Liam Bradley, measure the course for their 21st annual 10k run ON your marks, get set, go - preparations are under way for the 21st annual Aldridge 10k road race this summer. The Aldridge Running Club event, which attracts around 600 people, will take place on June 17.

The starting line will be at the Stick and Wicket Club at The Green. Club chairman Chris Sprules said: "There will be a 4.3k fun run for those less competitive runners. There will also be family and children runs. It's Father's Day so we want to ensure there's something for all the family."

The race has been rated gold standard by the British Association of Road Races. Register by visiting the www.aldriderunningclub.co.uk website.

Ramblers on ridge walk

WALSALL Ramblers will be heading to the Suckley Hills near Lulsgate in Worcestershire for a seven mile circular walk on Sunday.

After a climb, this moderate walk is along a wooded ridge giving outstanding views. Non-members are welcome and should contact the walk leader for further information on 01922 455257. See also the www.walsallramblers.co.uk website.

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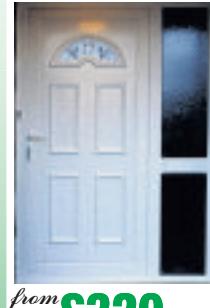
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002914

Crisis meeting on threat to church's restoration

Holmes goes alone



Murder and mystery for the Great Detective – theatre manager Bruno Edwards gets into the mood for new Sherlock play Holmes Alone

MYSTERY fans will be able to see the most famous fictional detective at work on stage in Bloxwich.

Sherlock Holmes comes out of retirement at theatre venue Bookmark Bloxwich in Elmore Row on Saturday (March 24) at 7.30pm for a new adventure with a twist.

In the play Holmes Alone, by the

A £1 MILLION restoration project at Walsall's oldest church could be scrapped after a crisis meeting today (Thursday).

Church bosses at St Matthew's have to make tough decisions after the church was hit by a metal theft there left them with a £400,000 repair bill.

The project has also been hit by the refusal of a grant which could have funded the scheme, English Heritage turned down a funding bid from the church last year.

A meeting involving the Rev Colin Gibson, senior figures from the Diocese of Lichfield and Walsall Church Links will make a decision about the future of the restoration scheme.

Mr Gibson said: "We will decide whether to abandon the project and salvage a few bits of it or whether it's worth trying to keep on going. It hasn't been an easy time for us."

Extensive repairs are needed on crumbling plasterwork, iron-framed windows, the balcony and staircase of the church.

Other improvements are needed to the floor, replacement of chairs, new toilets, kitchen facilities, refurbishment of the children's chapel, upgrading of computer systems and landscaping the grounds.

It comes as thousands of pounds are being spent on a new roof for the church's community centre in St Matthew's Close after thieves stole 130 sq ft of copper last December – three months after £40,000 of lead was stolen from the church on Church Hill.

Superbug shut out

WALSALL Manor Hospital is celebrating a full year of being MRSA-free. The hospital, part of Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, has gone 365 days since the last case of blood stream infection Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus. The Moat Road hospital introduced procedures to reinforce infection control, including screening patients before they are admitted.

Don't Go Into The Cellar theatre company, the Great Detective is without Doctor Watson – who has remarried – as he investigates a spate of mysterious deaths on the Sussex Coast.

Tickets cost £8, while concessions are £6 and are available from Bloxwich Library in Elmore Row.

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Restaurant appeals on holidays and Sunday ban

AN INDIAN restaurant, which was given the go-ahead to open in Bloxwich, has appealed against the condition of opening hours imposed on it as part of planning permission.

The restaurant, which will also have a takeaway and delivery service, was granted consent to change the use of a retail shop at 79 Turnberry Road into a food establishment in November last year.

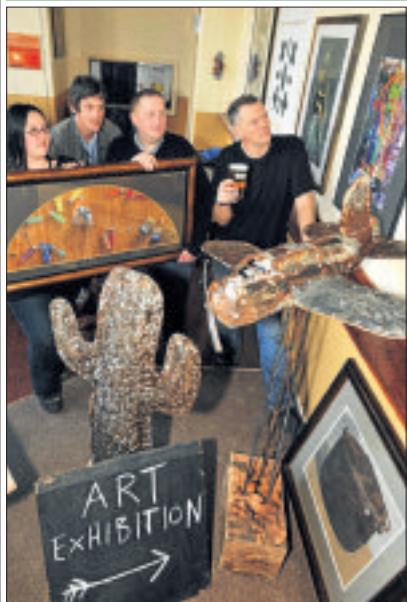
But the conditions attached include one that the premises should not be open for business outside of 11am to 11pm Mondays to Saturdays, and should not be open on Sundays, Bank Holidays or public holidays.

The business has objected to this, claiming that surrounding businesses are open outside of these hours, and said it was a "nonsense" for a restaurant not to be open during public holidays.

Kevin Whittingham, representing the restaurant, said in the application to change the opening hours: "We acknowledge the fact that takeaway use has also been granted to these premises but takeaways associated with a restaurant do not normally have the same anti-social problems of those that are solely takeaway use."

"Bank holidays are without a doubt a restaurant's busiest period. To force this restaurant to close on these days is a nonsense."

Art with ale on tap



Landlady Hannah Hewish, artist Cameron Galt, landlord Jason Paddock and Ron Thompson, curator and artist ARTISTS are putting on their second art exhibition at their favourite watering hole in Walsall.

The White Lion pub in Caldmore, will host the display until Wednesday, March 28, in the "art room" at the pub. It is open daily and admission is free to view.

Gallery

Ron Thompson, artist and organiser of the display, said: "This is our second exhibition at the pub, the first show was very popular showing work by over 10 artists and for this exhibition we are expecting more."

"I'd like to thank the landlords and the White Lion's locals for supporting this unique initiative."

"We don't think there are many pubs with an art gallery!"

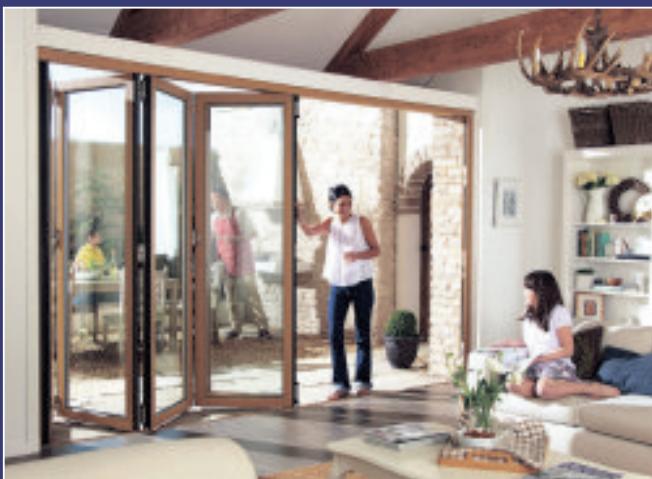
Learn how to relax

A YOGA and relaxation class is held at All Saints Parish church, in Foley Road East, Streetly, from 9.30am to 11am every Saturday.

Classes also take place on Monday evenings from 7 to 8.15pm at Great Barr Methodist Church, in Sundial Lane, Great Barr.

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Borough's low education rankings are 'worrying'

Connor thanks lifesavers



Connor Witton says thank you to Jason Read and Dave Butwell

A 10-YEAR-OLD Walsall boy has thanked lifeguards at a leisure centre who saved him from drowning.

Connor Witton, of Beechdale, Bloxwich, was swimming with his family at Wolverhampton Swimming and Fitness Centre in Bentley Bridge when the wave machine started and he began to struggle.

Connor could not stay afloat and as he fell sank lifeguard David

Butwell spotted him and plunged into the pool. With the help of fellow lifeguard Jason Read, 23, the pair pulled Connor from the water to the relief of his mother, Jody, 34, who had not realised her son was in danger.

Jody, who lives with husband Steve, 54, and daughters Keeley, 14, and Amy, nine, said: "If it wasn't for the lifeguards, I don't know what would have happened."

WALSALL is 144th out of 152 council areas when it comes to the education standards of its youngest and oldest pupils, new figures reveal.

The borough is in the bottom six per cent for results at A-level and at early years foundation stage (pupils aged three to five). The results were revealed in a report on educational standards in the borough for 2011. Education chiefs said they recognised the poor table rankings but insisted there have been six years of improvement.

It comes as other figures show there have been improvements at GCSE, with 56.3 per cent of pupils getting five A* to C grades compared to 49.5 per cent in 2010. Walsall has the highest percentage of schools in the region rated 'outstanding' by Government watchdog Ofsted following inspections.

Councillor Barbara Cassidy, who chairs the children and young person's scrutiny panel, said the low ranking in two key areas was "worrying".

She added: "This does show that at early years foundation, for whatever reason, some children are coming to school that are not ready to learn. Some statistical analysis needs to be done. At key stage five there are also problems that obviously need to be looked at in order for us to move forward."

Below

With regard to early years foundation stage, the report says: "Walsall's performance is below the national average by eight percentage points and is five percentage points below the average level of our statistical neighbours." On key stage five (A-level), it says: "Performance within the whole of Walsall has declined from the 2010 results by 27.9 points per candidate. This is set against the national trend where attainment has improved slightly."

Serco, which compiled the report, insisted there had been improvements.

Serco, which compiled the report, insisted there had been improvements.

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Future of town's police station being considered

Tilly takes the title



Sheepdog Tilly and her owner Kate Watt celebrate success at Crufts WITH her shaggy hair and puppy dog eyes, adorable old English sheepdog Tilly won over the judges at her first Crufts.

After six hours of pampering and preening, Tilly scooped the title of best puppy bitch at the show held at the NEC Birmingham.

Rushall, said: "Tilly put on her best performance yet."

The pet, whose show name is Jeddep Romance Returns to Rischale, had a lap of honour in the show ring before being awarded the rosette.

Kate, aged 42, has been showing dogs at Crufts since the age of seven.

DISCUSSIONS are continuing over a new police station for Walsall.

Around £12 million has been earmarked for a police station in the town to replace the outdated one currently on Green Lane.

At first, it had been thought a new station would be built in Hatherton Road, closer to the town centre. It was later suggested that the current station could be knocked down and a new one built in its place.

No final decision over the future of the station has yet been made.

Caroline Schubert, spokeswoman for West Midlands Police Authority, said the police force was undergoing large-scale changes and talks were still ongoing.

Change

She said it was hoped a decision would be made soon.

"West Midlands Police is currently in the middle of a massive change programme which is looking at how we carry out major areas of our business such as call handling and custody facilities and making long-term decisions about where these should be sited," she said.

Hospital bid to cut back agency staff

WALSALL Manor Hospital is cutting back on agency workers as health chiefs try to save £11.6 million.

Manor Hospital spokeswoman Annabel Smith said the number of agency staff being used was likely to fall this year after the hospital was forced to increase their use over the winter months due to an outbreak of norovirus.

In January of this year, agency staff cost £332,538 of the hospital's £12m monthly pay budget, that was £28,000 up on the December figure.

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Court and fine dodgers nabbed in police blitz

Sheila is culture champion



MORE than 80 people have been arrested and thousands of pounds cash seized during a police operation targeting wanted criminals across Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Officers formed specialist teams and carried out raids at the homes of fine dodgers and people who have repeatedly failed to turn up to court.

Those detained in the operations were then put in front of dedicated 'Crackdown Courts' to be dealt with by magistrates immediately.

In the latest raids on Thursday and Friday, 27 people were arrested in Walsall with about £10,000 in fines being recovered.

Earlier action had seen more than 60 people arrested across Wolverhampton and £8,000 in cash seized.

Processed

Sergeant Helen Carver, who led the operation, said: "This operation gives us the opportunity to use dedicated teams of officers to focus purely on locating and arresting those people who are currently classed as being wanted across the Black Country. This also sends a clear message to those that do not comply with their community and court orders. These individuals are brought to justice in an effective, efficient manner."

During the raids, dubbed Operation Crackdown, officers arrested wanted offenders and processed them through mobile police stations set up in the two areas. Offenders were then searched before being taken before magistrates.

Freight firm taken over

WILLENHALL-based delivery group Nightfreight has been taken over by a bigger rival in a deal that will see £20 million invested in the next few years.

Staff have been reassured that there are no plans to cut jobs in the wake of the takeover. The company, in Ashmore Lake Way, employs around 2,000 people across 53 sites nationwide, running a fleet of more than 1,000 vehicles.

Walsall Museum volunteer Sheila Shreeve has been chosen as Arts and Business Cultural Champion for the West Midlands

WORKING with costumes at Walsall Museum as a volunteer for 30 years has been a dream come true for Sheila Shreeve. But the 76-year-old grandmother has even more reason to celebrate after being chosen as Arts and Business Cultural Champion for the region.

It comes after the honorary costume curator was given an MBE in 1999 for services to historic dress.

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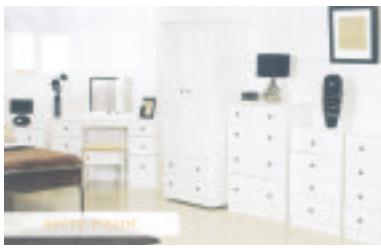
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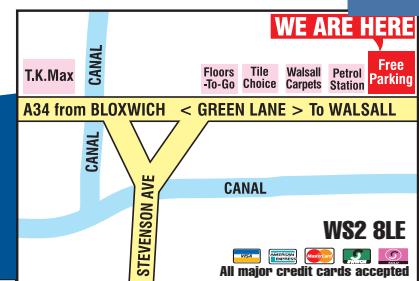
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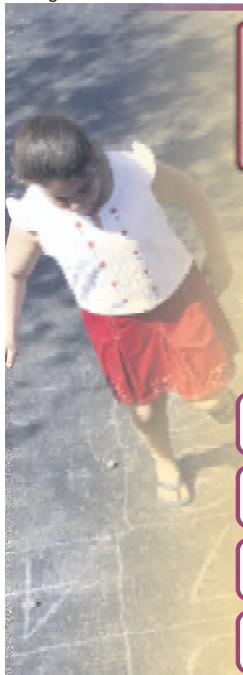
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If you require any additional information or require a registration form then call the community office on 01902 368613

thechronicle

COMPETITION

Chance to pick up a penguin pass **WIN**

LOVE penguins? Then would you love to win a family ticket to see the new penguin cove at West Midland Safari Park?

Now that West Midland Safari Park is fully open for summer we have 40 fantastic family tickets to be won to see these delightful little penguins and a whole lot more. As well as visiting the four-mile self-drive safari with its collection of animals from all over the world, there are some marvellous attractions to visit on foot, too.

Penguin Cove, naturally, is the first to explore. Found in Discovery Trail with its variety of splendid all-weather attractions like Twilight Cave, Mark O'Shea's Reptile World, Creepy Crawlies, Se aquarium and Sea Lion Show, the all-new penguin exhibit is taking centre stage.

Glimpse

See these delightful little animals make their summertime debut



See these delightful little animals make their summertime debut

Village. The exhibit has glass walls to allow the perfect viewing opportunity of these highly interesting and often amusing little animals.

There's Hippo Lakes, home to the largest family group hippo in the country and the Safari Express train ride that takes the direct route from the car park to the Amusement Area, which is packed with all kinds of fun rides and attractions.

These include some rides like the Black Fly, Twister, Wild River Rafting, Rhinocoaster, Zambezi Water Splash and Venom.

Each ticket admits a family of up to four people into the park, before it closes for wintertime on November 2. Whilst amusement rides are not included as part of the prize, multi-ride wristbands and ride tickets are available to purchase on the day.

Further information may be found on the Park's website: www.wmsp.co.uk

• Prize tickets are not valid on Bank Holidays - Good Friday or Mondays and rides not included.



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Parking fines bring in £18,000 for the council

Dig in for the jubilee



Marking the Queen's Diamond Jubilee – pupils from Fibbersley Park Zak Carter and Alissa Alexander with nursery teacher Amy Rock

PUPILS from primary schools in Willenhall rolled up their sleeves to help plant more than 100 trees to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The youngsters dug in at Willenhall Memorial Park in Pinson Road. Children from Fibbersley Park

Primary, in Noose Lane, and St Giles C of E Primary School, in Walsall Road, took part in the jubilee scheme.

Six million trees will be planted across the country to celebrate the Queen's 60 years on the throne.

CONTROVERSIAL on-street parking charges which came into force on 19 roads in Walsall town centre a year ago have raked in £180,000 in fines.

The fees, brought in on March 7 last year, virtually eradicated free parking in the town centre. Council chiefs said the money would be ploughed into other parking schemes across the borough. But traders claim the charges have hit them hard.

The 20p-per-10-minute fee is in force on 310 parking spaces in 19 town centre streets, including Hatherton Street, Station Street and Lichfield Street.

Council bosses said they were still analysing and compiling the results for the first year of the charges and will present them to the council's cabinet later this year.

Transport chief Tom Ansell said: "To date, approximately £180,000 has been raised from penalty charge notices however this is used to off-set the cost of operating and maintaining a range of parking facilities across the borough."

Refused

It means that if all fines were paid at the higher rate of £50, around 3,600 penalties have been given to drivers who overstay their time limit. If it was paid at the lower rate of £25, more than 7,000 fines have been issued out.

Businesses in Ablewell Street had launched an appeal for 30-minutes of free parking but council chiefs refused, saying the new rules were to prevent people clogging up spaces all day.

Egghead is patron

BROWNHILLS Musical Theatre Company has signed up one of TV's former Eggheads as an honorary patron.

Quiz expert Cj de Mooi is lending his support to the theatre group as it prepares its latest show The Producers which will be performed at the Lichfield Garrick from May 1 to 5. Tickets range from £13 to £17. Call 01543 412121 or 07532189689.

thechronicle
£1m centre to provide care of youngsters

WORK has started on a new £1 million pound complex that will offer respite care for youngsters.

The centre in Primley Avenue, Walsall, will provide short-term specialist support services to families of disabled young people.

Work is expected to take around six months, with the new facilities opening late autumn.

It will replace Eldon House in Eldon Street, a 1970s building that is considered no longer fit for purpose.

Disabilities

The aim of the new centre is to offer more services and to better support needs.

Cabinet member for children's services Councillor Rachel Andrew said: "This new purpose-built centre really will be the jewel in the crown of our specialist services for children with disabilities."

"It is the last of a whole programme of improvements for Walsall families, and I know its opening is eagerly awaited."

The project is being funded through Walsall Council's capital fund, in line with the Government's Aiming High strategy to transform short-break provision – formerly known as respite care – for severely disabled children.

The council is looking for new tenants for the existing centre in Eldon Street, once the building which is used by up to 30 young people, is vacated later this year.

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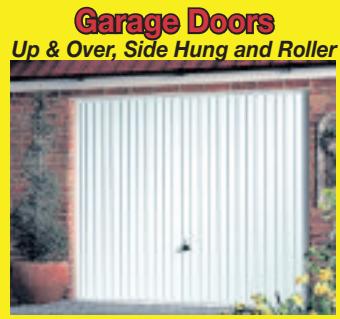


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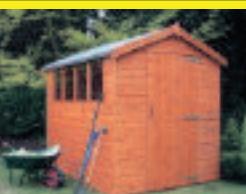


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Increase in number of members at meeting

BROWNHILLS TOWNSWOMEN

THE Annual General Meeting was attended by 38 members and two visitors. Two new members were also welcomed.

Secretary Pauline Morgan gave her annual report, outlining what a busy and entertaining year it had been. Support for charity has been good, including raising £192 at the Brownhills Canal Festival and more than £800 at An Evening with Ruth Clemens.

Chairman Julia Willett gave her annual report and it is encouraging to note the increased membership. She thanked the committee for their support and outlined a few activities as organised by Karen Da'Castro.

Jo Oldfield from Diabetes UK Research came to accept a cheque for £1,000.

A brief ordinary meeting followed to bring members up-to-date with forthcoming activities. A thank you was made to Floss Dickinson who stood down from the committee after 30 years.

After refreshments, a talk by Kate Jergas followed on her work in Kenya. She and a team of three build new classrooms and buy uniforms and educational equipment. They also run business training classes.

Kate sold handmade goodies and accepted donations to help her cause.

The next meeting is on April 16 at 7.30pm in the Lichfield Suite, Memorial Hall, Lichfield Road.

Daffodils in bloom for polio campaign



Ken Thomas presents a certificate of merit to Alder Coppice School pupils

ROTARY CLUB OF SEDGLEY & WOMBOURNE

cate of merit to the children of Alder Coppice School thanking them for their help in promoting the campaign.

The flowering of the daffodils has coincided with the news that due to the Club, India has been declared free from polio this year for the first time in its recorded history.

Rotarian Ken Thomas presented a certifi-

Chairman re-elected to post

WALSALL CENTRAL TOWNSWOMEN

presented the examined financial report, which was accepted by the members. After refreshments a bring and buy sale took place.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday April 3 at 7pm in the Mellish Room at Walsall Central Methodist Church. The speaker will be Mr P A Healey whose talk will be about beekeeping.

CHAIRMAN Mrs B White opened the meeting by welcoming all the members.

This was the AGM when the new committee was elected.

Mrs White was re-elected for a third year as chairman. Mrs P Jones was elected as vice-chairman with the present officers re-elected. Following this, secretary

Janice Fussell gave a full report of the whole year's progress, with various officers giving individual reports of their groups. The treasurer Hilda Whitaker

thechronicle

Olympic special trains set to link West Midlands with the Games

OLYMPIC Special train services will be put on to ferry thousands of tourists and ticket-holders between the West Midlands and London during the summer games, new plans have revealed.

Bosses at the region's 2012 committee are drawing up the transport plans, and they say the games will inject around £1 billion into the Midlands' economy.

Hundreds of thousands of tourists from around the world are expected to descend on the region during the weeks surrounding the event, spending money and giving the area a much-needed boost.

Committee chairman David Moorcroft revealed he is in talks with major train companies including Virgin, Chiltern and London Midland to try to encourage visitors to stay in the Midlands by stepping up transport links.

Bonus

"It would be a major bonus. Extra services will essentially be necessary to cater for the extra people," he said. "Visitors want to know they can get on a train relatively late at night and get home quickly and easily."

"Trains to London are always busy on normal days so it is an important issue. We want to see Olympic Specials."

He said the West Midlands

by Charlotte Cross

had benefited from the games more than any other region outside London, with £520m secured in business contracts won by 311 companies across the region. Among them is Carillion, ITC Carocelle in Walsall, Express Shutters of Brierley Hill and Wolverhampton-based Tarmac.

"The great thing is, being involved in the Olympics enhances the reputation of these companies, and worldwide sporting events are big business," Mr Moorcroft added.

The economic benefits are huge. Overall, we expect the financial benefit to be creeping up to the £1bn mark, which is just fantastic."

Birmingham is hosting the US and Jamaican track and field teams. The 160-strong US track and field team will train in and around the city.

The 60 members of the Jamaican track and field team, including the world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, will be based in the city.

Pupils have X Factor



Walsall pupils at talent show, front from left, Tanesha Hakeem, 15, Julian Formela, 13, and Ife Owolabi, 16

A SCHOOL in the Black Country held an X Factor-style talent contest to showcase pupils' skills.

Blue Coat School, in Walsall, ran the competition in order to raise money for charity, at the same time as putting 12 acts on stage to show their vocal skills.

The Birmingham Street school held two performances of the singing contest, one for an audience pupils and one during the evening for parents to also attend.

Deputy head at the 647-pupil school Stuart Jones said the shows raised funds for the school's charity of the year, Islamic Relief.

Crowd

He said: "There was quite a crowd here watching the shows. The shows were, first and foremost, to promote music within the school but also so we could raise money for charity. Each year we raise £4,000 to £5,000 for charity, which is quite substantial."

He said the show was the brainchild of the head of music, Glen Barron.

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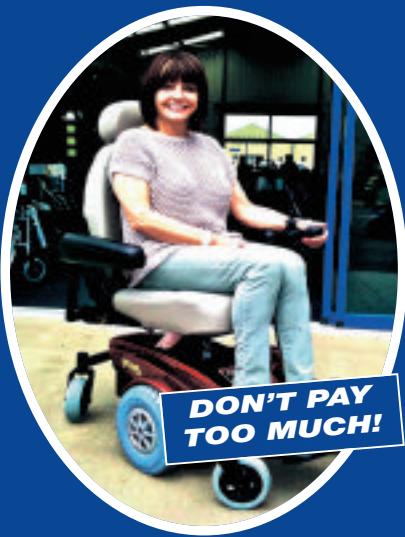


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thechronicle

Annual charity run to honour jubilee

AN ANNUAL running event in Walsall will be renamed in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

The Rotary Club of Walsall holds a charity event every year with a walk, run and road race from Walsall Arboretum.

Hundreds of people take part, helping to raise thousands of pounds for charity.

Students from Wolverhampton University are helping to put on the event, to be renamed the Queen's Jubilee Run.

It is expected to raise more than £6,000 for Breast Cancer Care and for the Bryntysilio Outdoor Education Centre.

Elga Mota, aged 28, studying at Wolverhampton University, said: "We just want people to get involved and help celebrate and honour the jubilee in Walsall."

"It is one of many ways people in the town are marking their respect for the Queen."

"It is also a special year as the Rotary Club is collaborating with Wolverhampton University to give students real life experience in helping to organise a public event."

The run is held on September 23, the 29th year the event has been staged by the Rotary Club.

Goods stolen in riot found in man's car

A MAN from Walsall caught with a computer and camera stolen from a shop during last summer's riots has been spared jail.

Michael Blackwood stashed the items in a car after they were stolen from a shop in Bell Barn Road, Birmingham, last August.

The 25-year-old, of Gower Street, admitted handling stolen goods to Wolverhampton Crown Court last week. He was told by he would have been locked up for a "considerable period" if he had known the items had been stolen by masked raiders.

Around £4,500 of electrical goods were taken by looters who caused more than £2,500 worth of damage to Optima Communications, Mr Mark Phillips, prosecuting, told the court.

A car registered to Blackwood's mother had been caught on CCTV parked near the

premises and police later went to his home. Blackwood was seen trying to slip the car keys on to a window sill but they were quickly seized.

Officers found the computer and camera but when questioned, Blackwood said he had not put them in the car. He insisted he had no idea where the items had come from but did admit he had tried to stop police getting access to the Ford Escort.

Custody

Miss Stella Hayden, defending, said Blackwood, who had spent 78 days in custody while being held on remand, together with a curfew when allowed bail, had no previous convictions for dishonesty.

Blackwood was placed on a 12-month supervision order and he must carry out 40 hours of unpaid work.

He will also pay £1,200 in costs.

Electric blanket was half century old



Sarah Heath with the electric blanket dating back 52 years and another blanket from the 1970s

A 50-year-old electric blanket was uncovered during free tests in Walsall.

Trading Standards officers and the council's reassurance team have been carrying out free inspections on electric blankets across the borough.

Of the 153 electric blankets tested, 63 were considered faulty and were condemned by testers.

Failed

But one which caught the eye dated back 50 years and promptly failed its inspection.

Another blanket was still in its original box, dating from the 1970s.

To be added to the mailing list for electric blanket testing, call trading standards on (01922) 652246.



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New academy launches



Pictured at the academy launch are, front, Ben Humpage and headteacher Keith Whittlestone, watched by, back from left, Jordan Savage, chariman of governors Ron Betts, Janet and Stephen Joynes

A SECONDARY school has officially been launched as an academy with the help of some special guests, including youngsters from a hospice helped by the school

Self-made millionaire Stephen Joynes, owner of Hoar Cross Hall in Staffordshire, dropped in to the new Joseph Leckie School in Walsall to help declare its new direction. Mr Joynes MBE grew up just a stone's throw away from the Walstead Road school.

Joseph Leckie school has been serving the local community in the Delves for the past 70 years now and its change to academy status is aimed at further improving the education it offers to youngsters.

The afternoon included a speech by Mr Joynes along with headteacher Keith Whittlestone, while a cheque for £1,000 raised by pupils was handed over to Acorns Children's Hospice.

Staff and youngsters from the hospice attended the ceremony, while music was provided by the school band.

Richard Thomas, deputy head, said: "It was inspiring to hear Mr Joynes speak."

Guests had the chance to view the Joseph Leckie School log book, a handwritten record of events at the school which opened in 1939.

by Catherine Dalton

Crooks' cash helps group

POLICE have handed £500 to a Willenhall community group after confiscating cash from convicted criminals.

The Friends of Rough Wood got a cheque from police community support officer Suki Lali to help fund projects at Rough Wood Country Park, off Wood Lane.

The money was handed over from a pot of cash funded by the sale of property confiscated by court order from offenders then sold.

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After the hugely successful launch of our meat megastore we have decided to run our biggest promotion yet! On Wednesday 4th April we will be giving all of our customers a huge 50% discount on all our fresh meat -YES that's correct all fresh meat 1/2 price! We will open at 8 am sharp and we would advise you to come early as we



Town And Country Meats Taste The Quality Love The Price

expect to be massively busy all day . Take this opportunity to stock up your freezer for the Easter holiday and the forthcoming BBQ Season . We only sell the best quality Scottish beef, New Zealand Lamb and British Pork, because of our massive countrywide distribution network we can offer our customers great deals everyday of the year but we want everyone to sample the quality of our meats and produce on Weds 4th April and to help you do that we will make your fresh meat half price -no gimmicks no catches - e.g. spend £20 on fresh meat we will charge you £10 at the till!

To help you keep the cost of your shopping low every week we are also offering customers the chance to join our loyalty scheme ,we will be running some huge promotions throughout the year that will only be open to loyalty card members all you need to do to join is fill in a small form at the till to start saving and maybe win some great prizes .

We look Forward to welcoming you into our new meat megastore on Weds 4th April and are sure that you will be delighted by the quality of our fresh meat and be astounded by the price!

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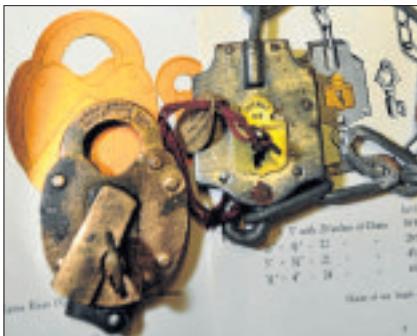


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Some of the locks found in a garage near Wolverhampton



The patented claw-shackle padlock, of the company's premium products



The impressive haul of vintage locks which shows the range made in the Black Country

Discovery unlocks industry's past

AS FAR as Michael Hamson was concerned, he was just doing a favour for an old friend when he started tidying her garage.

Old flower pots, car batteries, the odd tyre, it was filled with the usual junk that many of us acquire over time. Then he pulled out a battered old packing crate. And he could scarcely believe his eyes.

Locks. And lots of them. Victorian locks, Edwardian locks, big locks, small locks, but all of them made by Black Country lockmaker Enoch Jones.

"I knew her family had something to do with the lock industry, but never really thought anything of it," says Michael, a retired machine operative from Codsall.

Eileen Jones is the grand-daughter of the well-known Willenhall lockmaker Enoch Jones. For people with an interest in this fascinating industry, this haul found in a garage on the outskirts of Wolverhampton must seem akin to the discovery of the Staffordshire Hoard.

It's not just locks. There is masses of marketing literature. Bold, garishly coloured brochures so typical of the 1920s, explaining the benefits of the Enoch Jones patent claw lock. Sales ledgers and order books going back to the 1860s.

There is even a certificate from then prime minister Stanley Baldwin, presented to Enoch's son Thomas Beddowes Jones.

"This is a truly significant find," says

MEMORY LANE

by Mark Andrews

Jenny Walkley, of the Black Country Living Museum. "So much of the history relating to the lock works of Willenhall has disappeared."

For Michael, who is 67, the hard work came with the next bit: cleaning and sorting the locks, and matching them up with their keys.

"My grandchildren Sophie, Stephen and Laura spent many hours helping with that," he says.

In the 19th century, Willenhall was one of the world's leading centres for lockmaking, with vast swathes of the town's population employed in the trade.

John Enoch Jones started his lock company around 1860 at 36, Doctors Piece, just off Walsall Road, and he patented many innovations over the following years.

"He was a very good craftsman and engineer," says Michael.

His son Thomas, who was born in 1888, trained as a plumber, but ended up working for his father in a management role.

The factory was at the back of their house in Doctors Piece, and remained there after

they moved to Gypsy Lane. The company continued trading until the mid-1950s, when Thomas Jones' doctor ordered him to retire at the age of 68.

Thomas Jones' daughter, Eileen, was born in 1920.

"He then decided to sell the company after almost a hundred years of trading to its long-term rival, Walsall Locks & Cart-gear," says Michael.

"One of their locks was amongst the crate of samples dated 1942.

"Eileen can clearly remember how upset the staff were when Thomas announced the takeover of Enoch Jones & Sons."

The Jones family moved to Eileen's present home, just outside Wolverhampton, in 1944, and that is where Michael discovered the locks, 68 years on.

The find appears to be salesman's samples, with tags on explaining what each lock is. Among them are locks designed for the General Post Office, London North Eastern Railways, London, Midland & Scottish Railways, the Great Western Railway, and several South American railway operators.

"They are in very good condition," says Michael. "One of my favourites is a Victorian prison lock, it is a great big thing, with VR stamped on it."

The order books show a huge order placed by an Argentinian Railway company for 2,000 claw locks at eight shillings each, with a one shilling discount for quantity.

At the time, most of South America's locomotives and rolling stock were made by British manufacturers, and for some of these orders Jones worked in partnership with another well-known lockmaker, Arthur Linley.

"Enoch made improvements to Linley's lock to stop the jaws being forced open which he patented in 1921. The patent number is stamped into the lock face."

Chubb

The old company ledgers list the names of thousands of old companies dating back to the 1860s. Many have disappeared, but a few of the names are still with us.

"Eileen told me that the Chubb Brothers kept asking Enoch to join them, but he stayed put," says Michael.

Doctors Piece has now been cut in half to make way for a road reconstruction, and a Morrisons store stands where Enoch's factory and house stood at number 36.

All that remains is the brass plaque.

Michael, who had no interest in the lock industry prior to the find, admits he has now become something of an "anorak" on the subject, and is fascinated by the skills that these forgotten men of the Black Country possessed.

"I think it is extremely important that we remember our industrial heritage," he says. "This piece of lockmaking history could have ended up at the tip if Thomas Beddowes Jones hadn't brought it home 60 years ago."



Michael Hamson, historian Malcolm Millward and Eileen Jones examine a ledger from her grandfather Enoch Jones's lock manufacturing business

Norovirus - please read

NHS
Walsall

Important information on how to stop the spread of winter bugs in our community.

Before you visit your friend or relative in a hospital or care home setting please make sure you have done everything to prevent the spread of germs.

If you think you have a winter bug please:

- Stay at home until you have had two days without symptoms (feeling sick, being sick and/or diarrhoea)
- Wash your hands after using the toilet
- Keep your house clean especially the toilet, flush handles, taps and door handles - these can be cleaned with a bleach based product
- Don't prepare food for other people

If you have symptoms you can normally manage the symptoms yourself

- The symptoms usually last 1-2 days
- Keep drinking fluids - rehydration powder/drinks can be obtained from the pharmacist (ask a friend to get them for you)
- Antibiotics will not help
- If symptoms are severe speak to your pharmacist, NHS Direct or GP by phone for advice on managing your symptoms

Avoid catching germs by washing your hands with warm running water and soap or liquid soap before eating and after going to the toilet.

Please see guidance on how to wash your hands well.

Handwashing Technique

Wash hands using the following eight steps.

1.

Wet hands under running water. Take a measure of soap.

3.

Right hand over back of left and vice versa.

5.

Back of left fingers to right palms. fingers interlocked and vice versa.

7.

Rub left palm with clasped fingers of right hand and vice versa.

2.

Work into hands, palm to palm.

4.

Rub palm to palm, fingers interlaced.

6.

Rotational rubbing of right thumb clasped in left hand and vice versa.

8.

Left wrist with right hand and vice versa.

Rinse hands under running water and dry thoroughly

Handwashing is the most important way to stop the spread of germs

LETTERS

It's grim for job seekers

THE grim news is that the latest unemployed claimant figures locally and throughout the Black Country are simply getting worse.

The percentage involved in my constituency is 11.5 per cent on the latest figures issued by the Office for National Statistics. This represents the fortieth highest of all 650 UK constituencies.

Youth unemployment in my constituency amongst the 18-24 year olds shows that nearly 18 per cent in that group are claiming jobseekers allowance (JSA).

I initiated a Commons debate last year about such youth joblessness in the constituency.

The number of claimants overall continues to climb and, in the Black Country as a

Skilled staff must get better pay

RE: YOUR item "Too few skilled workers for expanding business".

The reasons why companies can't recruit skilled workers are numerous.

■ There has been NO real training in this country for 25 plus years, thereby leading to an ever decreasing older workforce.

■ Skilled workers have been made redundant or thrown out of work so they have now secured alternative full-time employment elsewhere, out of the trade.

■ The remuneration being offered is nowhere near what should be paid for the skills required.

■ Firms are offering three month roll-over contracts, so there is no job security.

■ Working conditions in some factories are still not much better than they were 40 years ago, ie lighting, machinery and lifting of heavy tooling.

Therefore, in summary, firms must offer better wages, conditions and job security to entice skilled workers to join them.

RON PILNICK
Canning Road,
Walsall

DAVID WINNICK MP
House of Commons,
London

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle
Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

walsallchronicle@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Darlaston was better off running own affairs

IT HAS taken Walsall Council four years, since it was originally agreed by a local regeneration committee, to finally use the land of the former Moxley Primary and Infants School site for family housing.

It is a terrible indictment on Walsall Council that elderly, young families and most vulnerable had to suffer the ordeal of proposals to build a probation hostel on the site. This outrage was condemned by everyone in Moxley and Darlaston.

Darlaston Enterprise zone and new road developments may bring jobs and enterprise in the next five to 10 years but, the urban areas of Moxley and Darlaston have been blighted by the lack of growth and investment in housing and jobs.

Eleven years of Tory regeneration has left us with huge housing waiting lists and record levels of youth unemployment.

The alarming, and inept way in which Walsall Council has failed to work with local people to offer agreed opportunities and bring new homes for local people, to take up brownfield sites, has left the local communities in little doubt that Darlaston people were better off when they were organising their own business from Darlaston Town Hall!

CLLR DOUG JAMES
Darlaston South Labour
Horton Street, Darlaston

thechronicle

Call to preserve hoard site

whole, seven per cent of the working age population are currently claiming JSA. This involves nearly 48,000 individuals.

However bad these figures are, they do not in fact represent all those who are unemployed; the main reason is that those who are jobless and want to resume employment are not eligible for jobseekers allowance if their partner is in full time employment. As to be expected, this applies to a large number of women.

As in the 1980s, large scale unemployment has returned and unless there are major changes in this week's Budget all the indications are that the situation will continue to get worse.

RE: YOUR item "Too few skilled workers for expanding business".

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The West End producer was a child when he sat spellbound through the original 1960 production of Lionel Bart's musical, based on Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens, and he



A scene from Oliver! with Samantha Barks as Nancy

has lavished West End production values with big cast and impressive sets on this touring version of the last London revival.

Credit to TV viewers' favourite Jodie Prenger but this production has surely found a classic Nancy in Samantha Barks (who was third in the TV Nancy search I'd Do Anything). A couple of years experience including a stint in Les Mis has transformed this raven-haired youngster into an impressive leading lady. Radiating determination and vulnerability, her rendition of As Long As He Needs Me was a showstopper.

Neil Morrissey is no singer but turned that to his advantage as Fagin, half-talking his witty lines for You've Got To Pick A Pocket Or Two and Revolving The Situation. One flaw – this production has a spot in which the celeb playing Fagin muses aloud to the audience. A "can we fix it" comment got an easy laugh but this nod to Morrissey's Bob The Builder alter-ego shattered the illusion in an atmospheric production.

Urchins

The street urchins were an adorable mob. Young Harry Pollard was a dunce but strong-voiced Oliver whilst Midland lad Max Greisbach was the archetypal sassy Artful Dodger. Iain Fletcher was a seriously scary vicious Bill Sykes, complete with bulldog, and there was a superb cast of grotesque Dickensian characters, amongst them Suzi Chard's monstrous Widow Corney and CJ Johnson's cadaverous Mrs Sowerberry.

Director Laurence Connor's production does the late Lionel Bart's songs justice in a show that teams with life like a Cockney tenement or a London street, thanks to Matthew Bourne's frenetic, sometimes saucy, choreography.

Oliver will leave you wanting more. It continues at the Hippodrome to April 21. Brian Conley takes over as Fagin and Cat Simmons as Nancy from April 3.

Leon Burakowski

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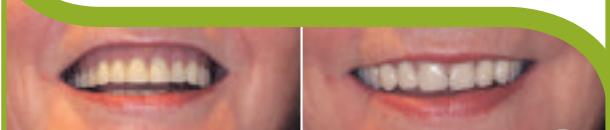
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HOW GOD MADE THE ENGLISH

BBC2, 8.20pm

For a long time, received wisdom suggested that God had a beard, was in His late fifties, lived in the Cotswolds and drank Earl Grey. The English have long claimed the supreme being as their own. Well, this new documentary series may or may not dissuade the masses from embracing that long-held belief. It seems the English may not have as much in common with God as they had hoped. In episode two, A Tolerant Nation?, Diarmaid MacCulloch, presenter of the award-winning series A History of Christianity, challenges the commonly held assumption that the English are historically exceptionally tolerant.

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. (R) **12.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **12.15** Football Focus. **1.00** Formula 1: Malaysian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights. **2.15** John Bishop's Sport Relief Hell. (R) **3.15** Sport Relief 2012: The Best Bits. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **5.30** A Question of Sport: Extra Time.

6.00 Winter Wipeout. **Celebrity Special.** Connie Fisher, Eddie 'the Eagle' Edwards and Tony Mortimer tackle the course.

7.00 The Voice UK. New series. Holly Willoughby and Reggie Yates co-host this singing contest, in which Tom Jones, Jessie J, Will.i.am and Danny O'Donoghue seek out the nation's best vocal talent.

8.20 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Quiz show, hosted by Dale Winton. Includes the Lotto and Thunderball draws.

9.10 Casualty. The investigation into the allegation of assault made against Sam begins.

10.00 BBC News: Weather. **10.20 Match of the Day.** Including highlights of Chelsea v Tottenham Hotspur; National Lottery Update.

11.45 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two.

2.00 (BST) Weatherview. **2.05** BBC News.

6.00 CBeebies. **7.05** CBBC. **12.00** Film: Anchors Aweigh. (1945) Musical, starring Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly. **2.15** Film: Camelot. (1967) Musical, starring Richard Harris. **5.05** Escape to the Country. (R) **5.50** Flog It!

6.50 Dad's Army. (R) **7.20 The Story of Light Entertainment.** Stephen Fry presents a history of music programmes, from their roots in variety performances to today's popular shows. Includes a contribution by Simon Cowell.

8.20 How God Made the English. Diarmaid MacCulloch scrutinises England's reputation as a tolerant nation, challenging the commonly held view that the trait evolved as a result of the Enlightenment.

9.20 FILM: Bright Star. (2009) Premiere. Biopic telling the story of 19th-century poet John Keats' three-year relationship with neighbour Fanny Browne. Starring Ben Whishaw, Abbie Cornish and Paul Schneider.

11.10 The Sarah Millican Television Programme. Sarah talks about food and survival programmes, with Charley Boorman and Oily Smith. (R)

11.40 FILM: Syncopation, New York. (2008) Premiere. Drama, starring Philip Seymour Hoffman.

2.40 Film: (BST) Caramel. (2007) Premiere. Comedy, starring Nadine Labaki. **4.10** Close.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITV. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. **11.20** This Morning: Saturday. **12.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **1.25** ITV News; Weather. **1.40** The Planet's Funniest Animals. (R) **1.55** Film: The 'Burbs. (1989) Black comedy, starring Tom Hanks. **3.45** Film: Land of the Lost. (2009) Premiere. Comedy adventure, starring Will Ferrell. **5.30** Regional News; Weather. **5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates camcorder calamities.

6.30 All Star Family Fortunes.

7.30 Harry Hill's TV Burp. The funnyman presents the final Burp in the present run. Last in the series.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. New series. Ant and Dec kick off the sixth season of the talent show, with new judges David Williams and Alesha Dixon joining Amanda Holden and Simon Cowell on the panel.

9.20 Take Me Out. Another batch of hopefuls takes part.

10.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. With Simon Cowell, David Williams, Danny DeVito, Dara O Briain and Labrinth. Last in the series.

11.20 ITV News: Weather. **11.35 The Cube.** A sales assistant and a retired theatre worker take part. Last in the series. (R)

12.30 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. **3.00 (BST)** In Plain Sight. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightshift. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

6.10 The Hoobs. (R) **6.35** Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. The British wheelchair rugby team prepares for the Games. (R) **7.30** The Grid. **7.55** The Morning Line. **8.55** T4: Koko Pop. **9.25** T4: The Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists! T4: Movie Special. **9.55** T4: The Album Chart Show Introduces: Emeli Sandé. (R) **10.15** T4: Charlie's Angels. **11.15** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.45** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.15** T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.45** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.15** T4: The Simpsons. (R) **1.50** Channel 4 Racing. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.20 Come Dine with Me. Matt Wilcox hosts the final dinner party in Stoke-on-Trent. (R)

6.55 Channel 4 News. **7.25 River Cottage Veg.** Cooking with summer garden vegetables. (R)

8.20 Big Fat Gypsy Weddings. The battle of Dale Farm. (R)

9.20 The Million Pound Drop Live. New series. Davina McCall returns with the high-pressure quiz show. Rochelle Wiseman and Mollie King from the Saturdays join members of the public as they compete to win £1 million.

11.05 FILM: Jennifer's Body. (2009) Premiere. Horror, starring Megan Fox.

2.00 Film: (BST) The Vault of Horror. (1973) Horror anthology, starring Daniel Massey. **3.30** Reaper. (R) **4.10** I Hate That Smile. (R) **4.15** Countdown. (R) **5.00** Film: Railroaded. (1947) Thriller, starring John Ireland.

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Inside Hollywood. (R) **10.05** The Hunger Games: Movie Special. **10.35** Building the Super Tower: Megastuctures. (R) **11.35** Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers. (R) **12.40** Film: Short Circuit 2. (1988) **2.45** Film: Contact. (1997) Sci-fi drama, starring Jodie Foster. **5.25** Film: Daddy Day Care. (2003) Family comedy, starring Eddie Murphy.

7.25 5 News Weekend. **7.25 NCIS.** Part one of two. The agents travel to LA to work with another NCIS team on an investigation that escalates into a high-priority case, and Tony begins to pry into Ziva's life. (R)

8.10 NCIS. The team members are surprised when Gibbs asks Tony's father to join them on a murder investigation. Guest starring Robert Wagner. (R)

9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. Hodges and Wendy attend a sci-fi convention, but the event is disrupted by the murder of a TV producer. Featuring cameos by the stars of genre shows, including Battlestar Galactica. (R)

10.00 CSI: NY. The case against alleged rapist John Curtis is put in jeopardy.

10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. **11.50 Inside Hollywood.** (R)

12.00 SuperCasino. **4.00 (BST)** Great Scientists. (R) **4.25** Great Scientists. (R) **4.50** County Secrets. (R) **5.00** Han's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2 **3.05** American Idol 5.55 Film: Flipper (1996) **8.00** Homes from Hell 9.00 Planet's Funniest Animals **9.20** Britain's Got More Talent. New series. Stephen Mulhern goes behind the scenes of the show and talks to presenters Ant and Dec, as well as judges David Walliams, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and Simon Cowell. **10.20** Take Me Out — The Gossip **11.05** Celebrity Juice 11.50 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records

ITV3 **2.50** Film: Agatha Christie's Murder in Three Acts (1966) **4.50** Rosemary & Thyme 5.50 A Touch of Frost **8.00** Doc Martin 9.00 Foyle's War **11.00** Those Who Kill

ITV4 **2.20** Film: The War Wagon (1967) **4.25** Film: The Spy Who Loved Me (1977) **7.00** Whisker Wars **8.00** Rookie Builders **9.00** Film: Moonraker (1979) Adventure, starring Roger Moore. **11.30** Film: The Game (1997)

BBC THREE **7.00** Doctor Who **7.50** Top Gear **8.50** World's Craziest Fools **9.20** JLS Sing for Sport Relief **10.50** Family Guy **11.35** American Dad!

BBC FOUR **7.00** Lost Cities of the Ancients **8.00** Monty Don's Italian Gardens **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** Top of the Pops: 1977 **11.20** Lost Cities of the Ancients

E4 **1.45** Hollyoaks **4.20** Rules of Engagement **4.50** Scrubs **5.45** The Big Bang Theory **7.05** How I Met Your Mother **7.35** Rules of Engagement **8.35** Happy Endings **9.00** Film: Independence Day (1996) **11.55** The Big Bang Theory

FILM4 **3.05** Guess Who (2005) **5.10** Eragon (2006) **7.10** Bedazzled (2000) Fantasy comedy remake, starring Brendan Fraser. **9.00** Dogma (1999) Comedy fantasy, starring Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. **11.25** Bug (2006)

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TITANIC

ITV1, 9pm

The problem with bringing a true-life story to the screen is that everybody knows how it's going to end. So what can a writer to do keep the humble viewer on the edge of their seats? Well, if you're Julian Fellowes, the answer is to make the tale more human. Now, after weeks of seeing tantalising trailers, Fellowes' lavish, four-part take on the sinking of the Titanic is here at last, and we'll be able to see for ourselves whether he's managed to breathe new life into a story we probably think we already know inside out. The opening edition introduces viewers to the wide variety of people about to board the ship in Southampton. Linus Roache, Celia Imrie and Sophie Winkleman star.

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Country Tracks; (R) Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.00** Sunday Politics. **1.00** Sport Relief 2012: The Mile Show. **2.45** Formula 1: Malaysian Grand Prix. **4.40** The Food Inspectors. **5.10** Songs of Praise. **5.45** Land Girls. (R)

6.35 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

7.00 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Julia Bradbury explore Leicestershire, including Weather for the Week Ahead.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow.

Fiona Bruce and the team revisit the Yorkshire Museum in York, where the main item of interest is a cocoa tin found in Captain Scott's tent during the 1910 Terra Nova expedition.

9.00 Upstairs Downstairs.

Lady Agnes returns home, desperate to heal her marriage, and Sir Hallam is more than willing to make amends. But a dark discovery has explosive consequences. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather.

10.25 We Won't Drop the Baby. A couple with cerebral palsy prepare to have their second baby.

11.15 Sport Relief Weekend 2012.

12.30 Weatherview. **12.35** Sign Zone: Film 2012 with Claudia Winkleman. (R) **1.15** Holby City. (R) **2.15** Question Time. (R) **3.15** Antiques Road Trip. (R) **4.00** BBC News. **4.00** Close.

6.00 CBeebies. **7.00** CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **11.30** Escape to the Country. **12.30** The Sheriffs Are Coming. **1.15** EastEnders. **3.10** Film: Carry On Again, Doctor. (1969) Comedy, starring Sid James. **4.35** Film: Carry On at Your Convenience. (1971) Comedy, starring Sid James.

6.00 TOTP2: Boy Bands.

Performances by JLS, the Monkees, Westlife, Village People and Blazin' Squad. (R)

7.00 Sandhurst. New series. Documentary following cadets at the Royal Military Academy as they undergo an arduous training programme in a bid to become British Army officers. Previously shown on BBC4.

8.00 Top Gear. Further highlights from the show's 17th and 18th series, in which Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May got up to more motoring mischief.

9.00 In Orbit: How Satellites Rule Our World. Maggie Aderin-Pocock reveals how satellites help everyday life run smoothly.

10.00 Match of the Day 2. Highlights of West Bromwich Albion v Newcastle United.

10.50 Mr Rich and the Terriers. An American billionaire sponsors a Northumbrian non-league football club.

11.20 Football League Trophy Highlights.

6.00 CITV: Mini CITV. **7.25** CITY. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Ade in Britain. (R) **10.30** May the Best House Win. (R) **11.30** Dickinson's Real Deal. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **1.15** Film: Murder, She Wrote: The Celtic Riddle. (2003) **3.35** Midsomer Murders. (R) **5.35** The Planets' Funniest Animals. (R) **5.50** Regional News; Weather.

6.05 ITV News; Weather. **6.20** Harry Hill's TV Bury.

The funnyman presents the final Bury in the present run. Last in the series. (R)

6.50 Dancing on Ice. The celebrity skating contest reaches its climax as the three remaining stars battle it out in the hope of succeeding last year's winner Sam Attwater. Last in the series.

9.00 Titanic. New series. Epic drama re-telling the story of the maritime disaster.

People from all walks of life board the liner at Southampton, unaware what lies ahead. Linus Roache stars. The four-part drama concludes on April 15 – the 100th anniversary of the real-life disaster.

10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather.

10.15 Perspectives: David Suchet – People I Have Shot. The actor photographs people across Britain, including the Queen.

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.

12.15 The Zone; ITV News Headlines. **2.35** River Monsters. (R) **3.20** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Hoobs. (R) **7.05** Road to London 2012: That Paralympic Show. (R) **7.30** Sailing: America's Cup Uncovered. (R) **7.55** Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Hannah Cockroft – Part Two. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.25** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** Film: Failure to Launch. (2006) Romantic comedy, with Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. **3.10** Deal or No Deal. **4.10** Time Team. **5.15** Channel 4 News. **5.45** 4thout. tv. **5.50** Film: Avatar. (2009) Premiere. Sci-fi adventure, starring Sam Worthington.

9.00 Homeland. The CIA director is reeling after losing key players in the Nazir plot, so Carrie suggests lie-detector tests on everybody, believing she can finally get the truth from Brody.

10.00 The Million Pound Drop Live. Davina McCall presents the quiz show in which contestants can win £1million, but lose money for giving incorrect answers.

11.30 FILM: The Illusionist.

(2006) A magician in early 20th-century Vienna tries to stop the love of his life from marrying a ruthless prince. Mystery thriller, with Edward Norton.

1.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) **3.00** Reaper. (R) **3.45** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Riley refuses to allow Mercedes to attend Bobby's christening. Barney suffers a terrifying encounter, and Dennis returns from India with a secret.

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fifi and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** City of Friends. (R) **6.40** Harry and His Bucket Full of Dinosaurs. (R) **6.55** Castle Farm. (R) **6.55** Igam Ogam. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Family! (R) **7.35** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **8.00** Little Princess. (R) **8.15** The Adventures of Botts Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.30** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Rupert Bear. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** The Mr Men Show. (R) **9.25** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.40** Mist: Sheepdog Tales. (R) **10.00** Meerkat Manor. (R) **10.25** Grey's Anatomy. (R) **11.20** Stansted: The Inside Story. (R) **12.20** Cowboy Builders. (R) **1.25** Film: The Shootout. (1976) Western, starring John Wayne. **3.20** Film: Tunes of Glory. (1960) Drama, starring Alec Guinness and John Mills. **5.20** Film: Battle of Britain. (1969) Second World War drama, starring Laurence Olivier.

8.00 Battle of Britain: The Lost Evidence. The tactics that won the 114-day air conflict. (R)

8.55 5 News.

9.00 FILM: Terminator 3:

Rise of the Machines. (2003) Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Nick Stahl.

11.10 FILM: Timecop. (1994) Sci-fi adventure, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme.

1.05 SuperCasino. **4.00** The FBI Files. (R) **4.45** Rough Guide to Cities. (R) **5.00** Hand's Helpline. (R) **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. (R) **5.35** Thomas & Friends. (R) **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

ITV2
2.25 Film: The NeverEnding Story (1984) **4.20** Britain's Got Talent **5.40** Britain's Got More Talent **6.40** Film: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) **9.00** Benidorm. Liam thinks his luck is in when the girls' Olympic synchronised swimming team arrives at the hotel – but they seem more interested in joining a booze cruise. **10.00** Film: Waterworld (1995)

ITV3

3.00 Torvill & Dean: Dancing on Ice Tour 2011 **4.05** Film: Smokey and the Bandit (1977) **5.55** Agatha Christie's Poirot **9.00** An Audience with Freddie Starr **10.00** Film: The Green Mile (1999)

ITV4

1.45 Film: Moonraker (1979) **4.15** Film: Spartacus (1960) **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00** Film: For Your Eyes Only (1981) **11.40** Film: Full Metal Jacket (1987)

BBC THREE

7.00 The Secrets of Everything **7.30** Great Movie Mistakes 2011: NOT IN 3D **7.40** The Voice UK **9.00** Being Human **10.00** Pramface **10.30** Family Guy **11.15** American Dad!

BBC FOUR

7.00 Songwriters' Circle: Country **8.00** She-Wolves: England's Early Queens **9.00** Angelic Voices: The Choristers of Salisbury Cathedral **10.30** The Choir: Military Wives

E4

3.40 Film: Star Trek: Insurrection (1998) **5.45** Film: Picture Perfect (1997) **7.40** Samantha Who? **8.05** 90210 **9.00** Desperate Housewives **11.00** Skins

FILM4

2.50 Tales from Earthsea (2006) **5.05** Big Momma's House 2 (2006) **7.00** Life or Something Like It (2002) Comedy, starring Angelina Jolie and Edward Burns. **9.00** Coco before Chanel (2009) Premiere. Biopic of the fashion designer, starring Audrey Tautou. **11.10** Naked (1993)

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Monday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 The 1952 Show. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News: Weather. 11.00 The Sheriff Are Coming. 12.00 Cast Away. 12.30 News: Weather. 12.45 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Secrets and Words. 3.00 BBC News: Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Bang Goes The Theory. BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 EastEnders. 9.00 BBC News: Pirates Panorama. 9.00 Empire. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 One Night. 11.35 Late Kick Off. 12.05 Who Do You Think You Are? (U) 12.50 Weatherview. 12.55 Sign Zone: Letting. Go. (R) 1.40 Great British Food Revival. (R) 2.40 Hidden. (R) 3.40 Antiques Road Trip. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 The Best. 4.00 Weather. 4.15 You Deserve This House. Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 This World: The Mormon Candidate. 8.00 The Hairy Bikers' Bakeation. 9.00 Horizon: Global Weirding. 9.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks. (R) 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 In Orbit: How Satellites Rule Our World. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 2.15 The Super League Show. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Dales. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Scott & Bailey. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 The Agenda. 11.05 Mayday. (R) 12.00 Weather. 12.30 The Zone: ITV News Headlines. 12.45 Daybreak. (R) 13.45 ITV News Headlines. 2.30 Champions League Weekly. 3.00 ITV News. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 The Treadie People. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 10.00 The Food Hospital. (R) 11.00 You Deserve This House. 12.00 Midday Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. 12.35 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.45 Film: Darby's Rangers. (1957) Second World War adventure, starring James Stewart, Terence Thomas. 3.15 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Supersize vs Superskinny. 9.00 Big Fat Gypsy Weddings. 10.00 Facejacker. 10.30 Hit the Road Jack. 11.05 Random Acts. 11.10 Desperate Housewives. 12.00 Countdown. 12.30 The Price is Right. 12.45 Cup Unders. 1.30 KOTV Boxing Weekly. 2.00 The Grid. 2.20 Ultimate Frisbee. 2.35 Late Night Poker. (R) 3.30 Brief Encounters of the Sporting Mind: Gymnastics. (R) 3.35 That Paralympic Show. (R) 4.05 Road to London 2012: Paralympics Extra. Last in the series. 5.00 Channel 4 Presents – 2012: Helen Turner. (R) 5.05 Full Metal Challenge. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10-15 News Lunchtime. 12.15 Emergency Bikers. (R) 3.10 Film: Nora Roberts' Northern Lights. (2009) Premiere. Romantic mystery, starring Eddie Cibrian and LeAnn Rimes. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 News. 7.00 The Project. (R) 7.30 (2009) Premiere. 8.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers; (R) 5 News. 8.00 WWI Top Gun: Revealed; 5 News at 9. 9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. 10.00 CSI: NY. (R) 11.00 CSI: Miami. (R) 11.50 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. (R) 12.00 Inside Hollywood. 1.00 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Tuesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 The 1952 Show. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News: Weather. 11.00 The Sheriff Are Coming. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. BBC News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Secrets and Words. 3.00 BBC News: Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 EastEnders. 8.00 BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 Hollyoaks. 9.00 The Syndicate. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 One Night. 11.35 The Apprentice. (R) 12.05 The Estate. 12.05 Film: Wishful Thinking. (1996) Romantic comedy, starring Drew Barrymore. 1.30 Weatherview. 1.35 Sign Zone: The Apprentice. (R) 2.35 EXile. (R) 3.35 Great British Food Revival. (R) 4.35 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Daily Politics. 1.00 My Life in Books. (R) 1.30 Living Dangerously. (R) 2.15 Weakest Link. 3.00 The Best. 4.00 Weather. 4.15 You Deserve This House. Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 A Very British Holiday: A Wonderland Film. 8.00 Chaplains: Angels of Mercy. 8.30 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo. 9.00 The Tube. 10.00 Watson & Oliver. 10.30 Newsnight; Weather. 11.20 In Orbit: How Satellites Rule Our World. (R) 12.20 BBC News. 2.15 The Super League Show. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Coronation Street. 8.00 The Dales. 8.30 Coronation Street. 9.00 Scott & Bailey. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 The Agenda. 11.05 Mayday. (R) 12.00 Weather. 12.30 The Zone: ITV News Headlines. 3.00 Crossing Jordan. (R) 3.45 ITV News Headlines. 4.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 Sail Mall. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 10.00 The Food Hospital. (R) 11.00 You Deserve This House. 12.00 Channel 4 News: Midday Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. 12.35 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.45 Film: Darby's Rangers. (1957) Second World War adventure, starring James Stewart, Terence Thomas. 3.15 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Four Rooms. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 O'Clock Live. 10.50 Facejacker. (R) 11.25 Hit the Road Jack. 12.00 Random Acts. 12.15 Music on 4: Radio 1 Chart Show. Spotlight. 12.50 Music on 4: Black Cab Sessions. 1.20 Music on 4: 4Play: The Civil Wars. 1.35 Music on 4: 4Play: All the Young. (R) 1.50 Music on 4: The Great Escape Festival 2011. 2.15 Music on 4: Ibiza Rocks. (R) 2.45 Music on 4: Live from Abbey Road. (R) 3.30 One Man Walking. (R) 3.50 Privileged. (R) 4.30 90210. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

Channel 5 6.00 Milkshake! 9.15 The Wright Stuff. 11.10 LIVE with Gabby. 12.10 5 News Lunchtime. 12.15 London: The Inside Story. (R) 1.15 Home and Away. 1.45 Neighbours. 2.15 CSI: NY. (R) 3.15 Film: The Nanny Express. (2008) Family drama, starring Vanessa Marano. 5.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. 6.00 Home and Away. 6.30 News. 7.00 Hollyoaks. (R) 7.30 (2009) Premiere. 8.00 5 News at 5. 5.30 Neighbours. (R) 6.00 Home and Away. (R) 6.30 5 News at 6.30. 7.00 Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers; (R) 5 News. 8.00 WWI Top Gun: Revealed; 5 News at 9. 9.00 NCIS. 10.00 Law & Order: Criminal Intent. 11.00 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. 11.55 Poker: The Big Game. 12.55 SuperCasino. 3.55 House Doctor. (R) 4.20 Wildlife SOS. (R) 5.10 Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R)

Wednesday

BBC1 6.00 Breakfast. 9.15 The 1952 Show. 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) BBC News: Weather. 11.00 The Sheriff Are Coming. 11.45 Cash in the Attic. BBC News: Weather. 12.15 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.30 Regional News: Weather. 1.45 Doctors. 2.15 Secrets and Words. 3.00 BBC News: Weather; Regional News. 3.05 CBBC. 5.15 Pointless. 6.00 BBC News: Weather. 6.30 Regional News Programmes; Weather. 7.00 The One Show. 7.30 Cash Britain. BBC News: Regional News. 8.00 Watchdog. 9.00 The Honeymoon Murder. 10.00 BBC News. 10.25 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 Question Time. 11.35 The Week. 12.00 Skiing. 12.25 Sign Zone: Murdoch's TV Pirates — Panorama. (R) 1.25 Countryfile. (R) 1.55 Hidden. (R) 2.55 British Isles Extraordinary Journey. (R) 3.55 Britains First Photo Album. (R) 4.25 BBC News.

BBC2 6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 8.30 CBeebies. 11.30 BBC World News. 12.00 Film: Return of the Bad Men. (1948) Western, starring Randolph Scott. 1.30 Animal Park. (R) 2.15 Weather. 3.00 Weather. 3.30 Eggheads. (R) 3.45 Film: It! Ten of the Best. 4.30 Breakaway. 5.15 Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is. 6.00 Just a Minute. 6.30 Eggheads. 7.00 The Hairy Bikers' Bakeation. (R) 8.00 The Fisherman's Apprentice with Monty Hall. 9.00 WikiLeaks: The Secret Life of a Superpower. 10.00 The Apprentice. You Fired! 10.30 Nightshift. 11.20 Boryvory. The Biggest Chinese Restaurant in the World. 12.20 Medium. (R) 1.45 BBC News. 3.00 BBC Learning Zone.

ITV1 6.00 Daybreak. 8.30 Lorraine. 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. 10.30 This Morning. 12.30 Loose Women. 1.30 ITV News: Weather. 1.55 Regional News: Weather. 2.00 60 Minute Makeover. 3.00 Dickinson's Real Deal. 3.59 Regional Weather. 4.00 Midsummer Murders. (R) 5.00 The Chase. 6.00 Regional News: Weather. 6.30 ITV News: Weather. 7.00 Emmerdale. 7.30 Countrywise Kitchen. 8.00 Homes from Hell. (R) 9.00 Fraud Squad. 10.00 ITV News at Ten; Weather. 10.30 Regional News: Weather. 10.35 Breakfast. 11.00 Champions League: Extra. 11.35 Road War. 12.30 The Zone: ITV News Headlines. 3.00 News. 2.30 Film: The Day of the Jackal. (1973) 4.50 ITV News Headlines. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

Channel 4 6.00 Sail Mall. (R) 6.15 The Hoobs. (R) 6.40 The Hoobs. (R) 7.05 Freshly Squeezed. 7.35 According to Jim. 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 Undercover Boss USA. (R) 10.00 The Food Hospital. (R) 11.00 You Deserve This House. 12.00 Channel 4 News: Midday Summary. 12.05 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. 12.35 River Cottage Bites. (R) 12.45 Film: Darby's Rangers. (1957) Second World War adventure, starring James Stewart, Terence Thomas. 3.15 Countdown. 4.00 Deal or No Deal. 5.00 Come Dine with Me. 5.30 Four in a Bed. 6.00 The Simpsons. (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks. 7.00 Channel 4 News. 7.55 4thought.tv. 8.00 Four Rooms. 9.00 One Born Every Minute. 10.00 O'Clock Live. 10.50 Facejacker. (R) 11.25 Hit the Road Jack. 12.00 Random Acts. 12.15 Music on 4: Radio 1 Chart Show. Spotlight. 12.50 Music on 4: Black Cab Sessions. 1.20 Music on 4: 4Play: The Civil Wars. 1.35 Music on 4: 4Play: All the Young. (R) 1.50 Music on 4: The Great Escape Festival 2011. 2.15 Music on 4: Ibiza Rocks. (R) 2.45 Music on 4: Live from Abbey Road. (R) 3.30 One Man Walking. (R) 3.50 Privileged. (R) 4.30 90210. (R) 5.15 Countdown. (R)

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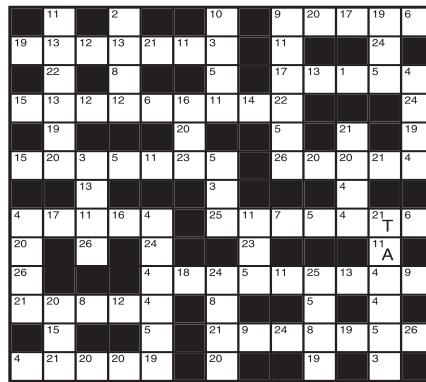
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Brain Gym

No.161

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS IN ONE HANDY APP!



Seven great games in one!
 CRYPTIC CROSSWORD
 QUICK CROSSWORD
 CODEWORD SUDOKU
 WORD PUZZLER
 WORD SEARCH
 NUMBER CRUNCH

SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES On the iPhone, iPod Touch & iPad

SEVEN GREAT GAMES IN ONE!



SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES

ALL YOUR PUZZLE NEEDS

IN ONE HANDY APP!



Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

6. He foresees a hold-up with the reform (7)
7. A fair race? (5)
9. A child of spirit (3)
10. Deep feeling trouble with an allowance (9)
12. Naughty Mica eats pie and gets blood poisoning (11)
15. Not the best moment to sort things out (6-5)
17. A question of personal welfare (3,3,3)
19. A punitive measure (3)
21. Get down to making a proposal? (5)
22. A title indeed much wished for (7)

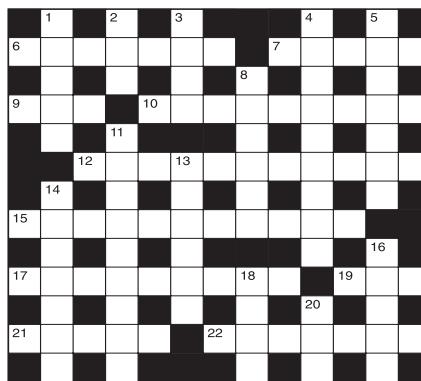
Quick Clues:

Across

6. Deceive (7)
7. Calm (5)
9. Merry (3)
10. Litter (9)
12. Liberation (11)
15. Narrator (5-6)
17. Food (9)
19. Attempt (3)
21. The pick (5)
22. Nimbleness (7)

Down

1. Family worry? (5)
2. Man of intelligence? (3)
3. The best part of a play (4)
4. Was given a grammatical definition (4,5)
5. It may be left on the river-bed or in the bank (7)
8. Nucleobase found initially under rocks and concealed in lichens (6)
11. An extraordinary deed or act may get you this (9)
13. Put to rights, it went back and expired (6)
14. Tell a story about a foreign nobleman (7)
16. Figures it's only one among hundreds (5)
18. Finished in a superior position (4)
20. The energy of six thousand (3)



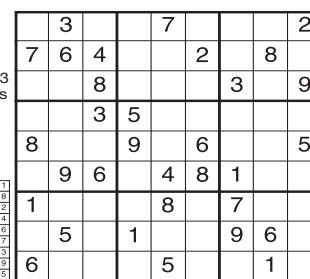
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Spirited reply; 8 Staccato; 9 Done; 10 Fierce; 12 Appals; 14 Assist; 16 Evolve; 18 Hand; 20 Made sure; 22 Infant prodigy. Down: 1 Upstairs; 2 Grocer; 3 Etna; 4 Advocate; 5 Held up; 6 Flan; 11 Estimate; 13 Leverage; 15 Indian; 17 On side; 19 Anna; 21 Dart. QUICK - Across: 7 Red Riding Hood; 8 Accepted; 9 Vend; 10 Caress; 12 Be-rate; 14 Stupor; 16 Endear; 18 Hero; 20 Remember; 22 Dispassionate. Down: 1 Panchant; 2 Grieve; 3 Edit; 4 Inedible; 5 Shiver; 6 Gown; 11 Surprise; 13 Traversy; 15 Prompt; 17 Dement; 19 Exit; 21 Main.

Sudoku

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

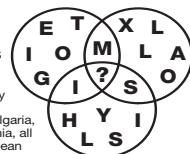
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >



Circlegram

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
 The letter represented by the question mark is B. Bulgaria, Belarus, Albania, all Eastern European countries.



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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD
 QUICK CROSSWORD
 CODEWORD SUDOKU
 WORD PUZZLER
 WORD SEARCH
 NUMBER CRUNCH

SEARCH: DAILY EXPRESS PUZZLES
 On the iPhone, iPod Touch & iPad

Entertainment
Cannock ChaseAt The
Prince of Wales Centre

Sixties night Out

Friday March 30th 7.30 pm Tickets £18
 A 60s Night Out 2012 featuring Dave Berry, Chip Hawkes, and Chris Farlowe.



Freddie Starr

Sunday 1st & Monday 2nd April
 7.30pm Tickets £21.50



Dennis Locorriere

Friday 20th April 7.30pm
 Tickets £20



Rumplestiltskin

Saturday 7th April 2.00 pm
 Tickets £12, Concessions £10, Family £38

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NUI2 REG



The Fabia GreenLine II is fitted with a Stop/start system, gear change recommendation, and energy recuperation, improving economy and lowering CO₂ emissions even further. These advancements mean the car emits just 89 g/km CO₂, with a combined fuel economy of 83.1 mpg it is the most economical ŠKODA ever!



83.1 MPG COMBINED

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Skoda range: Urban 19.6 (144) - 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 36.2 (7.8) - 4.2 (3.0), Combined 27.7 (10.2) - 83.1 (3.4). CO₂ emissions for the Octavia range 89 - 237g/km

* Offer applies when purchased through Škoda Finance. Model shown for illustration purposes.

Home of Property

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Top property guide for Walsall, Brownhills, Aldridge, Willenhall, Bloxwich and beyond

Expansive 200ft garden for three-bed home in Willenhall



To the rear is a garden which includes a 200ft area enclosed by fencing with a paved patio, lawn, trees, shrubs and decking area. For further details, or to arrange a viewing, visit the website www.pauldubberley.co.uk or call local estate agent Paul Dubberley direct at the office on 01902 633323.

A THREE-BEDROOM property in Sandringham Avenue, Willenhall, is on the market with a reduced asking price of £182,000.

The agent 'highly recommends' viewing this well presented house.

On the ground floor is a hallway with stairs to the first floor, and a kitchen - 9ft 1in by 8ft 5in - has matching base and wall cupboards, stainless steel sink and drainer, roll top work surfaces, gas hob and electric oven, space for fridge, plumbing for washing machine and utility area.

The lounge, 20ft 9in by 13ft 1in, has an electric coal effect fireplace and patio doors to the conservatory, measuring 11ft by 8ft. On the first floor are three bedrooms with radiators and uPVC double-glazed windows and the master bedroom includes fitted wardrobes.

There is also a separate WC and a bathroom with bath with shower over and pedestal wash hand basin, heated towel rail, uPVC double-glazed obscure window and storage cupboard space.

Outside to the front is a block-paved driveway with parking for two cars and access to the garage.

To the rear is a garden which includes a 200ft area enclosed by fencing with a paved patio, lawn, trees, shrubs and decking area.

For further details visit www.pauldubberley.co.uk or call Paul Dubberley on 01902 633323.



The large drive and garage provides off-street parking for up to two vehicles



The Mayfield



GREAT NEWS!

First Buy now available
at Wednesbury - a home of your own
for £103,950 (£5,198 deposit required)



The Tidbrook



Come along this weekend to find out how you could own 100% of your new Bloor home for just 80% of the price

If you are a first-time buyer who can't afford to buy a new home, you may be able to get help through the 'First Buy' scheme. The scheme offers a loan of up to 20% of the purchase price of a new build home and there are no fees for the first 5 years. **HURRY limited plots available**

You can buy on our Satchwell Grange development through First Buy if:

- If your household earns less than £60,000 pr year
- If you can't otherwise afford to buy a home in your area
- If you are currently renting a council property or housing association property
- If you are first time buyers or if you used to own a home but can't afford to buy one now
- Up to a maximum of £280,000
- Expires March 2013

With First Buy, there are many benefits of buying a new home:

- You own 100% of the property
- You have a mortgage for at least 80% of the cost met by a mortgage and savings (deposit)
- You only need a deposit of 4% on the new property
- You have an equity loan for the remaining cost of the home.

With the fantastic **First Buy Scheme***
It's now even easier to move to a new home at Satchwell Grange

BLOOR HOMES

visit www.bloorhomes.com to find out more

*First Buy is available on selected plots only. Terms and conditions apply, subject to status and qualification. Full details are available from our Sales Team. Your home is at risk if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage or any other loan secured against it, be sure you can afford the repayments before entering into a credit agreement. * Photos for illustration purposes only. ¹iPad 2 received on legal completion

Apple iPad 2*
OR £500 John Lewis
Vouchers available
on completion



(subject to terms and conditions)



HomeBuy
UK Government

Mayfield - 2 bedroom semi
with 2 parking spaces
£129,950 / £103,960
£5,198 deposit required

Tidbrook - 3 bedroom semi
with 2 parking spaces
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£5,838 deposit required

Ashbury - 3 bedroom
detached with garage
£179,950 / £143,960
£7,198 deposit required

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 On site parking. Prominent location on the
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Show suite open for viewings!


 Offices, Retail/Leisure units available
 from 350 to 700 sqft in covered shopping
 arcade fronting the principal retail pitch
 within Huddersfield Town Centre. The
 lock-up units have double glazed upvc
 shop fronts and doors. Flexible terms.

Show suite open for viewings!


 Industrial / Storage units available from
 650 sqft to suit a variety of sizes on
 well established business park. Roller
 shutters, WC's and ancillary offices in
 most units. Available on flexible terms.
 Near to Huddersfield Town Centre.

 Offices available from 1600 sqft located
 one mile from Cannock Town Centre on
 the A34 Walsall Road, close to A5, M6
 J11 and J7 of the M6 Toll road.
 Available on flexible terms.

Show suite open for viewings!


 Office, Retail/Leisure unit available from
 650 sqft. Situated within the principal
 retail area of Cannock Town Centre.
 Large shop frontage to Wolverhampton
 Road with on site parking to the rear of
 the property. Available on flexible terms.

Available on flexible terms.

Show suite open for viewings!


 Office, Retail/Leisure units available from
 250 sqft. Situated on the main retail
 parade within Bridgwater, accessed via
 an archway from North Street. Allocated
 on site parking to central courtyard.
 Available on flexible terms.

 Office, Retail/Leisure units available from
 7290 sqft located two miles south of
 Cannock Town Centre. Roller shutter door
 to the rear of the property, on site
 parking, close to all major arterial routes
 and available on flexible terms.

 Office units available from smaller starter
 units 150 to 3645 sqft. Located to the east
 of Cannock Town Centre accessed from
 Hayes Way off the Eastern Way Bypass
 A460. Raised access flooring to offices
 with on site parking. Flexible terms.

 Light Industrial, Storage units available
 from 690 sqft, situated in Bridgwater,
 one mile south of Cannock Town Centre.
 close to A5, M6 J11 and J7 of the M6
 Toll road. Roller shutter and WC's to
 units with on site parking. Flexible terms.


Walsall

Five-star service from a leading developer, satisfying customers


An artist's impression of a typical Taylor Wimpey home

TAYLOR WIMPEY, which builds new homes across the West Midlands has been awarded the maximum five star-rating for customer satisfaction in an independent survey by the Home Builders' Federation (HBF).

The UK-wide survey from the HBF is sent to all new home purchasers eight weeks after their moving-in date, and asks them to rate their house-builder on the service they received and the quality of their new home.

From this, each company is awarded a star rating from one to five.

Nine out of 10 Taylor Wimpey customers said they were satisfied with the quality of their new home and would recommend Taylor Wimpey to a friend. Both results officially rank Taylor Wimpey as a five-star builder.

Pride

Jan Titley, regional sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey, comments: "We take great pride in putting our customers first and ensuring that their whole move goes as smoothly as possible.

"It's incredibly rewarding for our regional teams to receive this independent recognition for our approach to customer service and the quality of

the homes we build." Taylor Wimpey is currently building high-quality new homes at the following developments across the region:

TELFORD – Castle Meadows, Telford, 0845 676 2363
 The Meadows, Telford, 0845 071 8846

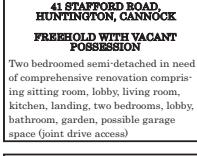
WEST MIDLANDS – Saddlers Brook, Walsall, 0845 672 4132
WORCESTERSHIRE – The Cornfields, Wythall, 0845 026 5345
 Farrington Parade, Worcester, 0845 026 5010

Further information is available by calling 0121 703 3400 or by visiting www.taylorwimpey.co.uk

AUCTION
MONDAY 26th MARCH 2012
 7 pm Prompt At
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 1st Floor The Danilo
 High Green
 Cannock, Staffs

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£75,000-
£85,000GUIDE PRICE:
£65,000-
£75,000GUIDE PRICE:
£130,000-
£140,000
AUCTION VIEWING TIMES

ADDRESS	SATURDAY 24th March	WEDNESDAY 21st March
3 Old Penkridge Mews, Cannock	10.00 a.m.	10.00 a.m.
20 Brunswick Road, Cannock	10.30 a.m.	10.30 a.m.
41 Stafford Road, Huntington	11.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.
206 Bradbury Lane, Huddersfield	11.30 a.m.	11.30 a.m.
222 Bradbury Lane, Huddersfield	11.45 a.m.	11.45 a.m.
462 Littleworth Road, Huddersfield	12.15 p.m.	12.15 p.m.
49 Wimblebury Road, Heath Hayes	1.00 p.m.	1.00 p.m.
199a & 199b Norton East Road, Norton Canes	1.30 p.m.	1.30 p.m.
2 Wesley Avenue, Cheslyn Hay & Land adj.	2.00 p.m.	2.00 p.m.
164 Hawksford Crescent, Wolverhampton	2.45 p.m.	2.45 p.m.
15B & 16 Springhead, Wednesbury		By Appointment
16A, 17, 18 & 19 Springhead, Wednesbury		By courtesy of the tenants in occupation

NOTE: All viewings undertaken at prospective purchasers own risk. Neither the Agents or the vendors can accept any risk for any injury caused whilst viewing at any property whether or not the property is occupied or unoccupied. When viewing properties please take care when parking so as not to inconvenience adjoining owners and road users.



01543 50 54 54

19 Wolverhampton Road, Cannock, Staffordshire. WS11 1DG

Walsall


 connecting people with property

Spend now to save on heating bills later

REPLACING your boiler can be expensive and disruptive, but if the boiler's old, it's worth it.

According to the Energy Saving Trust, swapping an old boiler for an A-rated condensing one – and upgrading the heating controls at the same time – could reduce your fuel bills by up to £300 a year.

"An ageing heating system 15 years old or more may be wasting as much as 30p of every pound spent on heating your home or water," says Martyn Bridges of boiler manufacturer Worcester Bosch Group.

"Older boilers are also likely to have a standing pilot light, which could be costing in the region of £50-£60 per year."

Traditional

In all but exceptional circumstances, new gas boilers have, by law, to be condensing ones.

They're the most energy efficient because they recover heat from the gasses that escape through the flue.

There are different types of condensing boiler, though. Traditional boilers store hot water in a cylinder (usually in the airing cupboard), while combi boilers heat the water on demand.

With a combi, you save space and you don't have to plan ahead to get hot water.

But if your household uses a lot of hot water and your home has multiple bathrooms, a boiler with a cylinder may be more suitable. Your installer will be able to advise you.

It's illegal for anyone other than an installer registered with Gas Safe Register to fit or work on a gas boiler.

At www.gassaferegister.co.uk you can



At www.gassaferegister.co.uk, you can find a registered installer

can find a registered installer. It's best to go with an installer who's been recommended to you, but failing that, ask for references or look for customer feedback online.

Regulations

Replacing a gas boiler usually costs between around £2,000 and £3,000, including the cost of the boiler itself.

A registered installer will be able to ensure that their work complies with

building regulations and should provide you with a certificate when the new boiler is fitted, which you may need when you sell your home.

All gas boilers should be serviced annually.

"Even if your boiler is not that old," says Bridges, "it is important that it has an annual inspection from a qualified engineer."

For more tips and information, visit www.boileradvice.co

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2 Choose: let us know which properties you are interested in by making a bid before the closing date given on the web site.

3 Move: If you are successful we will arrange for you to view the property and sign the tenancy agreement.



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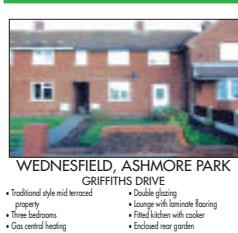
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Cross Street, Willenhall
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Memorial Cl, Willenhall
Extended Four Bedroom Semi Detached Property Close To Willenhall Park, Having Lounge, Kitchen, Four Bedrooms, Fitted Bathroom, Integral Garage, C/Heating, D/Glazing & Driveway, £650 PCM



Huntington Road, New Invention
A Two Bedrommed Mid Terraced Property On The Sought After Forest Gate Estate In New Invention, Consisting Of Lounge, Through Conservatory, Two Bedroms, Kitchen, Two Bedroms, Bathroom, Ideal Investment Property, In Need Of Some Modernisation, CASH OFFERS ONLY, £79,995



Leacroft, New Invention
A Three Bedrommed End Terraced Property On The Sought After Forest Gate Estate In New Invention, Consisting Of Lounge, Through Conservatory, Three Bedroms, C/Heating, D/Glazing, In Need Of Some Modernisation, CASH OFFERS ONLY, £79,995 ONO



Western Avenue, Bentley
Three Bedrommed Mid Terrace Property, The Property Comprises Of Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility Room, Two Bedroms, Two Bedroms, C/Heating, D/Glazing, In Need Of Some Modernisation, The Property Also Benefits From Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating, £84,995



Stroud Avenue, Willenhall
Three Bedrommed Semi Detached Property Located Close To Willenhall Town Centre, The Property Comprises Of Two Reception Rooms, Three Bedroms, One With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, £99,995



Latimer Street, Willenhall
Spacious Semi Detached Property Located Close To Willenhall Town Centre, The Property Comprises Of Two Reception Rooms, Three Bedroms, One With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing, C/Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, £99,995 ONO



Kennedy Crescent, Darlaston
Spacious Semi Detached Property Having Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Two Bedroms, One With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Detached Garage & Generous Garden, £107,995 ONO



Victoria Street, Willenhall
Two Bedroom Mid Terraced Property Having Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen, Two Good Sized Bedrooms And Additional Loft Storage Area, Upstairs Bathroom And Enclosed Rear Garden, £495 PCM



Brookhill Close, Willenhall
Well Presented Spacious One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Hallway With Storage Cupboard, Fitted Bathroom, Intercom System, D/Glazing, C/Heating, £400 PCM



Kenilworth Crescent, Walsall
Modern Three Bedroom Semi, Open Plan Lounge Through To Conservatory, Good Sized Kitchen, Downstairs W.C, Master With En-Suite, Detached Garage, Driveaway, Cul-De-Sac Location, MUST VIEW, £120,000 ONO



Spindle Tree Rise, Willenhall
Well Presented Modern Three Bedroom Town House, Lounge, Spacious Kitchen, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Separate W/C, Family Bathroom, Conservatory, D/Glazing, Double Length Driveway, Large Rear Garden, Popular Location, £122,950



Stubbys Lane, Wednesfield
Well Presented Three Bed Traditional Semi, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Double Length Driveway, Large Rear Garden, Popular Location, £124,995



Bloxwich Road South, Willenhall
Immaculate Three Bedroom Semi Having Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Feature Conservatory, Downstairs W.C, Family Bathroom And Integral Garage, UPVC Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating, £129,995



Willenhall Street, Darlaston
Well Presented Four Bedroom Extended Semi Detached, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedroms, One With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, Detached Garage, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating & Driveway, £139,995



Oakridge Drive, Willenhall
An Extended Link Detached Property Having Fitted Kitchen, Extended Lounge/Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedroms, Fitted Bathroom, Integral Garage, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating & Driveway, £139,995



Dingle Lane, Willenhall
A Traditional Detached Bungalow Comprising Of Two Reception Rooms, Two Bedroms, New Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Fitted Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Central Heating And Create Print Driveway, VIEWING ESSENTIAL, £575 PCM



Pimbury Rd, Short Heath, Willenhall
Well Presented Extended Four Bedroom Semi Detached Property In The Popular Short Heath Area, Property Benefits From Double Glazing, Double Glazing, Conservatory, Four Double Bedroms, Fitted Kitchen, UPVC Double Glazing, Central Heating And Create Print Driveway, VIEWING ESSENTIAL, £145,000



Gurnard Close, Willenhall
Extended Three/Four Bedroom Semi, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Rear Garden, £147,000



Ada Wrighton Close, Willenhall
Extended Three Bedroom Link Detached House, Entrance Hall, Large Through Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Integral Garage, Rear Garden, £152,995



Alton Avenue, Willenhall
Well Presented Spacious Three Bed Semi, Lounge, Two Reception Rooms, Re-Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Double Glazing, C/Heating, Large Create Print Driveway, Garage, £159,950



Edinburgh Drive, Willenhall
Spacious Three Bedroom Semi, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Separate W.C, Utility Room, Two Bedroms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Carport, Front & Rear Gardens, £162,995 ONO



Barmouth Cl, Willenhall
Three Bedroom Detached Property Comprising Of Spacious Lounge, Extended Dining Area, Extended Kitchen/Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedroms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Fitted Bathroom, Garage, Block Paved Driveway, £175,000



Kingfisher Gr, Coppice Farm
Well Presented Three Bed Detached, Lounge/Diner, Conservatory, Three Bedroms, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Modern Fitted Bathroom, En-Suite, Driveway, Garage, Rear Garden, £186,950 ONO

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Add water and watch your options expand

MOST daffodils will have finished flowering by April and so too will other spring bulbs.

At this time of the year there are usually only tall tulips still waiting to stun us with their bright colours and exciting displays.

After patio pots of spring flowering bulbs have finished flowering plant the whole compost ball of root growth out into the open garden where the plants can continue to grow ready for a second display next year.

This will save you regular watering of the pots and provide the bulbs with steady moisture from the surrounding soil.

While manufacturers of potting composts are gradually reducing the amount of peat they put into our compost, they are also marking their bags so everyone can see how far each individual product formulation has progressed in meeting the Government's target for completely peat-free growing.

Expand

Manufacturers are also working hard to provide growing media that are completely peat-free and this year Expand 'n Gro from Miracle-Gro looks to have some exciting benefits.

It is sold in a lightweight bag that is easy to carry to the car or in the garden and is recommended not only for putting up seedlings and young plants but also for use when planting more mature plants out into garden soil.

Each bag expands up to three times its own volume to make 50-litres of enriched compost when you add the required amount of water.

Expand 'n Gro has some great environmental credentials as it is made from dried and compressed coir, a waste product of coconut growing. It's also quick and easy to use. Place some compost straight from the bag into either a planting hole or a pot.

Add tap water and you will see the



Add water to bag of Expand 'n Grow and watch the contents get bigger

compost turn rich dark brown as it absorbs the liquid, at the same time expanding and growing as you watch it grow to three times its original volume.

Adding water to the compost is a delight to watch – especially for children who often think it is magic, not just Miracle-Gro expertise that makes you smile.

At this time of the year you will be using these sorts of compost indoors to prick out seedlings and pot on plug plants that you have recently purchased. Outside coir composts are ideal when planting out new herbs

aceous flowers and permanent shrubs and trees into open soil.

The open structure is ideal for planting in the soil as it creates 90 per cent more air space for plant roots to thrive, ensuring fantastic root growth – vital for perfect plant performance.

It holds lots of moisture and retains water for longer – so it doesn't dry out so quickly – and it feeds for up to six months.

● Words and photographs supplied by John Clowes, of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company

re locally with peace of mind

If you're looking to retire in and around Walsall or Telford, then Hanover could have just the home you're looking for. All Hanover estates benefit from a 24 hour alarm call system, maintained gardens, pet friendly policy and the services of an Estate Manager – and there are several to choose from!



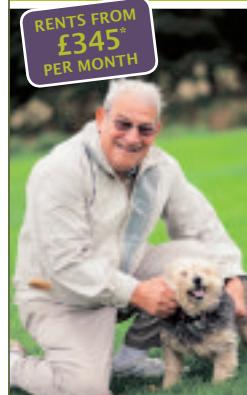
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lounge, fitted kitchen and bathroom, and storage areas. You will also have your own front door. Sandino Court also has two bedroom bungalows.

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- Residents' lounge
- Laundry room
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- Lift provision
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● A well presented and deceptively spacious ground floor flat
● Gas centrally heated and PVCu double glazed
● Lounge, fitted kitchen, very spacious master bedrooms
● Bathroom/WC and communal gardens
● NO ONWARD CHAIN
Offers in the Region Of £67,995



Fully Modernised
Brereton Road
New Invention
● A spacious and fully modernised self contained second floor flat
● Located in a three storey purpose built block
● PVCu double Glazed and gas centrally heated
● Private Lobby, Lounge Area, Two Well proportioned Bedrooms with built in wardrobes
● Fully tiled Bathroom/WC, Re-fitted Kitchen, Utility Area, Balcony, Outside Store
● Communal Gardens.
Offers in excess of £69,995



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Bramcote Way
Rushall
● A brand new semi detached house
● Gas centrally heated & PVCu double glazed
● Carpets throughout, 10 year NHBC Build Mark Warranty
● Completed to good quality standards by Taylor Wimpey
● £250 Builder Contribution Towards Legal Fees
● ONLY ONE REMAINING!!!
● No Onward Chain
£149,995



Reduced
Sneyd Lane
Essington
● A deceptively spacious and extended detached house
● Gas centrally heated and PVCu double glazed
● 'L' shaped lounge/dining room, extended study/garden room
● Spacious breakfast kitchen
£224,950



Sneyd Lane
Essington
● Three good sized bedrooms, fully tiled bathroom/WC
● Single car garage, ample driveway parking
● Mature secluded gardens to front and rear



Brand New!!!
Monument Drive
Shareshill
● Why not move into an impressive detached bungalow!!
● Gas centrally heated and PVCu double glazed
● 10 year NHBC Build Mark Warranty
● NO ONWARD CHAIN!!
£199,950



Brand New!!!
Monument Drive
Shareshill
● Two bedrooms, detached garage
● Fitted kitchen with integrated appliances
● Large lounge with French doors
£199,950



Reduced To Let
Neath Road
Bloxwich
● A modernised mid terrace house
● Gas central heating and PVCu double glazing
● Re-fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, utility room
● Three bedrooms, bathroom/WC
● Gardens to front and rear
● Sorry No DSS, Pets or Smokers
£475 pcm



Reduced To Let
Lichfield Road
Rushall
● A spacious & fully refurbished 2 Bedroom ground floor Apartment
● Garage, Parking & Maintained Gardens
● Spacious Lounge, Re-Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room
● Re-Fitted Bathroom, Includes New Carpets
● Available Now, Apply to Agents
● Sorry No DSS
£595 pcm



Argyll Court
New Invention
● A well presented and deceptively spacious ground floor flat
● Gas centrally heated and PVCu double glazed
● Lounge, fitted kitchen, very spacious master bedrooms
● Bathroom/WC and communal gardens
● NO ONWARD CHAIN
Offers in the Region Of £67,995

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WANTED

MR & MRS P ARE SOLD AND URGENTLY NEED A BUNGALOW, TWO BEDROOMS IN SHORT HEATH OR SUMMER HAYES, PRICE GUIDE £125,000-£130,000



THE MANOR, WILLENHALL THOMPSON CLOSE

- Spacious detached property in cul de sac location
- Three bedrooms, was originally four, could easily be converted back by a potential purchaser
- Majority UPVC double glazed windows
- Gas central heating system

£159,500



SHORT HEATH CORSICAN CLOSE

- Pleasant extended detached family residence in cul-de-sac
- Three bedrooms & en-suite downstairs bedroom 4/ study room & en-suite shower room
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazing

£179,950



WANTED

TWO AND THREE BEDROOM BUNGALOWS IN ALL AREAS



WILLENHALL WATKINS ROAD

- Extended semi-detached residence
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows

£147,500 OFFERS



WILLENHALL WATKINS ROAD

- Spacious 1.6ft extended rear lounge
- Dining room and breakfast kitchen
- Utility room and study/occasional bedroom four
- Attractive rear garden

£147,500 OFFERS

- Excellent modern detached residence
- Three bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory

£189,950 NO CHAIN



COPPICE FARM BOWNESS GROVE

- Refitted shower room
- Full width rear lounge/dining room
- Fitted kitchen inc oven and hob
- Garage and ample parking

£189,950 NO CHAIN

WANTED

MR G IS A FIRST TIME BUYER AND WOULD LIKE A HOUSE IN COPPICE FARM OR NEW INVENTION, PRICE GUIDE UP TO £160,000



COUNTY BRIDGE, WILLENHALL CORONATION AVENUE

- Pleasantly appointed traditional style bay fronted semi
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows

£129,950



COPPICE FARM LOCHSIE GROVE

- Modern style detached family residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Lounge and dining rooms

WAS £205,000 NOW £199,950



COPPICE FARM KESTREL GROVE

- Impressed modern style detached family residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Lounge and dining rooms

WAS £225,000 NOW £215,000



COPPICE FARM SNOWDON WAY

- Pleasantly appointed extended detached family residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Lounge and dining rooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows

£220,000

WANTED

TWO AND THREE BEDROOM TERRACED PROPERTIES IN OR AROUND WILLENHALL



COPPICE FARM KESTREL GROVE

- Pleasantly appointed modern style detached family residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows

£215,000 OFFERS



WILLENHALL HIGH ROAD

- Spacious modern style detached residence
- Four bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Double glazed windows

WAS £195,000, NOW £189,950



NEW INVENTION, WILLENHALL CRAB LANE

- Spacious style link detached bungalow
- Two reception rooms
- Popular and much requested location
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing

£167,000 OFFERS, NO CHAIN



SUMMER HAYES EDINBURGH DRIVE

- Pleasantly appointed former style bungalow
- Extended to the side elevation
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazing

£137,950

WANTED

MR & MRS D HAVE SOLD THEIR OWN PROPERTY AND REQUIRE A THREE OR FOUR BEDROOM HOUSE IN ESSINGTON, PRICE GUIDE UP TO £250,000



SHORT HEATH WESLEY ROAD

- Super Victorian style terrace
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows

£110,000 NO CHAIN



WILLENHALL NEW ROAD

- Conveniently located detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas warm air central heating system
- UPVC double glazed windows

£130,000 OFFERS, NO CHAIN



SNEYD PARK DRUID PARK ROAD

- Pleasantly appointed semi-surprisingly spacious semi
- Ideal first time purchase
- Two double bedrooms
- Gas central heating

£122,000



NEW INVENTION BRETERIOR ROAD

- Pleasantly appointed semi-detached property
- Ideal first time purchase
- Two double bedrooms
- Gas central heating

£96,500 OFFERS

WANTED

TWO AND THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED PROPERTIES IN THE BENTLEY AREA



NEW INVENTION RUGLEY AVENUE

- Extended & improved end town house style property
- Three bedrooms
- UPVC double glazed windows

£120,000 OFFERS



WILLENHALL VAUGHAN ROAD

- Much improved town house style property
- Two bedrooms
- Superb upvc double glazed conservatory

Offers in excess of £95,995



NEW INVENTION BEACON ROAD

- Traditional style semi-detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted dining kitchen inc oven and hob

£110,000 OFFERS



SHORT HEATH COLTHAM ROAD

- Charming Victorian style terrace
- Thought ideal for first time purchasers
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £99,950

WANTED

TWO AND THREE BEDROOM HOUSES IN SHEPHERD DRIVE, TILDESLEY DRIVE AND QUEENS LEA



WILLENHALL SHEPWELL GREEN

- Conveniently located and town house style property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows

£94,950 NO CHAIN



NEW INVENTION BALMORAL DRIVE

- Pleasantly appointed extended semi-detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows

£124,950 OFFERS



WILLENHALL FURZEBANK WAY, OFF STROUD AVENUE

- Pleasant semi-detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing

£124,995 NO CHAIN



WILLENHALL PACKWOOD CLOSE

- Excellent modern style semi in popular Heath development
- Planning permission granted for a two storey side extension
- Fitted kitchen with white units and shaker doors
- Two bedrooms
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Enclosed rear garden

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £105,000

**COUNTY BRIDGE, WILLENHALL
YORK AVENUE**

- Extended traditional style bay fronted semi
- Three bedrooms plus useful loft storage space
- Lounge and dining rooms
- Extended breakfast kitchen

£127,950 NO CHAIN**WEDNESFIELD
LOWER PRESTWOOD ROAD**

- Excellent opportunity to purchase circa 1950's individually built detached family residence
- Massive potential to re-model
- Gas central heating system
- Three bedrooms

Offers in the region of £249,995**ESSINGTON
HIGH HILL**

- Superb extended modern style detached residence
- Spacious family living accommodation
- Four generous bedrooms
- Large en suite bathroom

£275,000**COPPIE FARM
KESTREL GROVE**

- Superb extended modern style detached residence
- Three bedrooms
- En-suite shower room
- Garage and block paved driveway

£189,995 NO CHAIN**COPPIE FARM
KINGFISHER GROVE**

- Pleasantly appointed modern style detached property
- Three bedrooms, en-suite shower room
- Lounge and dining room
- Superb UPVC double glazed conservatory

£186,950 SERIOUS OFFERS CONSIDERED FOR QUICK SALE**WILLENHALL
LISTER STREET**

- Pleasant traditional style semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating system
- Double glazed windows

£87,000 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**ESSINGTON
ROSEWOOD GARDENS**

- Spacious modern style detached residence
- Popular Essington village location
- Three bedrooms
- Refitted dining kitchen

Offers in the region of £174,950**WILLENHALL
LONGWOOD RISE**

- Desirable 3/4 bedroom semi detached property
- 3 bedroom plot 229 ground floor garage
- Gas central heating, UPVC double glazed windows

£149,950, OFFERS, NO CHAIN**COPPIE FARM
KINGFISHER GROVE**

- Pleasantly appointed modern style detached property
- Four bedrooms, all with wardrobes
- Master bedroom with en-suite shower room
- Gas central heating system
- Re-fitted kitchen with oven, hob, and integrated washing machine

NOW £218,000**DARLASTON
WOLVERHAMPTON STREET**

- Spacious first floor flat in convenient location
- Two double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating system

£64,950 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**WILLENHALL
VICTORIA STREET**

- Pleasant terrace style property
- Ideal first time purchase or potential investment property
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating system (fitted)

£67,500 NO CHAIN**WILLENHALL
FURZEWELL WAY**

- Pleasantly appointed three house style property
- Three bedrooms, currently two bedrooms could easily be changed back
- Gas central heating

£109,995**NEW INVENTION, WILLENHALL
CRAB LANE**

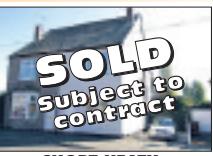
- Extended three bedroom link detached property
- Delightful front and rear garden
- Four bedrooms, all with wardrobes
- Master bedroom with en-suite shower room
- Gas warm air central heating system

WAS £165,000, NOW £159,950 NO CHAIN**ESSINGTON
SHERRINGHAM DRIVE**

- Pleasantly appointed link detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- Two reception rooms

£179,995**WEDNESFIELD
WYVERN CLOSE**

- Spacious detached property in much sought after location off Broad Lane North
- Some internal modernisation
- Two bedrooms
- 24ft through lounge/dining room

Offers in the region of £129,995**WEDNESFIELD
BROAD LANE SOUTH**

- Extended traditional style semi detached property
- Much sought after location
- Three bedrooms
- Off road parking

Was £135,000 Now £129,950**NEW INVENTION
SANDRINGHAM AVENUE**

- Spacious extended semi detached property
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- Extended fitted kitchen with fridge and freezer
- Double glazed windows

WAS £137,000 NOW £134,000**SHORT HEATH
WOOD LANE CLOSE**

- Delightfully spacious versatile detached family residence
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazing
- First floor bathroom with Jacuzzi type bath, UPVC double glazing windows

NOW £289,995**BEECHDALE, WALSALL
LISTER ROAD**

- Traditional town house style property
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Upstairs bathroom

£79,950 OFFERS**WILLENHALL
DOVEDALE AVENUE**

- Traditional style semi detached property
- In need of some modernisation
- Excellent potential to improve

£99,950**WALSALL
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD**

- Pleasantly appointed improved traditional style terraced property
- Ideal first time purchase
- Two bedrooms
- Two reception rooms

£84,950**COPPIE FARM
TORRIDON ROAD**

- Pleasant modern style two bedroom bungalow
- Delightful cul-de-sac location
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Off road parking to the fore

£125,000 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**BENTLEY
LIME AVENUE**

- Three bedroom semi detached property
- Gas central heating system
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Two reception rooms

£99,950 OFFERS, NO CHAIN**SUMMER HAYES
LUDLOW CLOSE**

- Spacious detached bungalow in private drive position
- Three bedrooms
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows

£179,950 OFFERS**SUMMER HAYES
LUDLOW CLOSE**

- Stylish refitted kitchen
- Stunning refitted bathroom with P shaped bath and separate shower
- Two bedrooms
- Gas central heating

£72,500 50% SHARED OWNERSHIP**BENTLEY, WALSALL
ARNOLD CLOSE**

- Pleasant three bedroom end of terrace house
- Gas central heating
- External UPVC double glazed windows

£65,000 CASH OFFERS ONLY**SUMMER HAYES
FENN RISE**

- Deceptively spacious, versatile link detached bungalow
- Extended to the side elevation
- Two bedrooms
- Bedroom 2 currently used as a second lounge

£187,500 OFFERS**WILLENHALL
MOUNT ROAD**

- Pleasant three bedroom detached property
- Unusually large corner plot
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed conservatory
- Potential to extend (subject to planning reg)

£149,995**SHORT HEATH
HUNTS LANE**

- Pleasant double fronted detached bungalow
- Gas central heating
- Detached garage and port
- Concrete print driveway

WAS £210,000, NOW £195,000 OFFERS**COPPIE FARM
COTSWOLD GROVE**

- Pleasant first floor maisonette being delightfully situated
- Large built in storage
- One bedroom
- Electric storage heating
- Double glazed windows

£54,995**WILLENHALL
KINGFISHER COURT**

- Conveniently located ground floor apartment
- Gas central heating
- UPVC double glazed windows
- Fitted kitchen with oven, hob, washing machine and refrigerator
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Two bedrooms
- Recessed lighting with colour changing
- Security gated entrance, allocated parking

£69,950 OFFERS, NO CHAIN

auction HOUSE

EDWARDS MOORE

Estate House, Darwall Street, Walsall WS1 1DA 01922 615222

LOT 1

4 Duncombe Green, Coleshill B46 1BP

Viewing: 27th March and 3rd, 10th April all at 11.00am



This modern purpose built first floor maisonette boasting gas fired central heating and double glazing situated within a short distance of Coleshill village centre with facilities provided. The property offers an ideal opportunity for an investor and comprises:- Landing, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom.

Guide Price £65,000-£75,000

LOT 2

26 Ashtree Road, Pelsall, WS3 4LR

Viewing: 24th, 28th March and 5th April all at 10.30am



A traditionally styled semi-detached brick and tiled dwelling house situated within a short walk of Pelsall village centre with all facilities provided. Having the benefit of gas fired central heating and double glazing the property is in need of further improvement but offers an ideal opportunity for a first time buyer, young family or investor. Set back from the road behind a small fore garden flanked by drive leading into garage the property comprises the following:- Lounge, Inner Hallway, Rear Living Room, Kitchen, Bathroom, Separate W.C., Three Bedrooms, Garage and Fore and Rear Gardens.

Guide Price £80,000-£100,000

LOT 3

117 Great Charles Street, Brownhills WS8 6AF

Viewing: 24th, 29th March and 5th April all at 10.00am



This traditionally styled semi-detached property consisting of brick property constructed of brick under a pitch tiled roof set back from the road behind a tarmacadam driveway flanked by lawn and an attractive rear garden. Situated close to Brownhills centre the property has been let on an assured shorthold tenancy and benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazed and would make an ideal purchase for a first time buyer/investor. The accommodation comprises:- The accommodation comprises:- Reception Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom, Off Street Parking, Fore and good sized rear gardens.

Guide Price £65,000-£75,000

LOT 4

Flat 8 Ridgeway Court, Bentley Road North, Walsall WS2 0PA

Viewing: Strictly by Appointment through Auctioneer on 01922 615222



This purpose built first floor maisonette offers gas fired central heating and well planned accommodation being sold as an investment and comprises the following:- Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. The property is being sold as an investment property being let on a 12 month assured shorthold tenancy dating from 13th August 2011 in favour of Mr A Williams and Ms T Taylor at £415.00 per calendar month.

Guide Price £40,000-£50,000

LOT 5

40 Treetops Drive, Willenhall WV12 4BQ

Viewing: Strictly by Appointment through Auctioneer on 01922 615222



This purpose built first floor maisonette offering an ideal opportunity for an investor and the property is currently let on a recent 12 month assured shorthold tenancy. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and double glazing and comprises:- Entrance Hall, Landing, Lounge, Kitchen, Bedroom and Shower Room. The property is let on an assured shorthold tenancy commencing 12th January 2012 at £350 per calendar month in respect to Mr Wayne Spittle.

Guide Price £30,000-£40,000

LOT 6

64 Mount Pleasant, Bilston WV14 7NE

Viewing: Strictly by Appointment through Auctioneer on 01922 615222



This traditionally styled end of terraced residence is situated within a short distance of Bilston town centre offering banking and other facilities. Ideally suited to the needs of a first time buyer or investor the property comprises: Entrance Hall, Reception Hall, Lounge, Living Room, Kitchen, Rear Lobby, Shower Room, Three Bedrooms. Blue brick yard provides access to Rear Garden.

Guide Price £56,000-£66,000

LOT 8

66 Birmingham Road, Walsall WS1 7NE

Viewing: 24th, 29th March and 5th April all at 11.45am



This traditionally styled detached family residence is situated in a highly sought after residential area in South Walsall and offers truly spacious well planned living accommodation in need of improvement and modernisation. Boasting many of its original features the property is in an elevated position overlooking Mayfield playing fields and offers spacious, well planned living accommodation situated close to Walsall town centre. The property comprises:- Reception Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Lobby, W.C./Utility, Five Bedrooms, Bathrooms, Garage, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Guide Price £250,000-£275,000

LOT 9

1 Gower Street, Walsall WS2 9AS

Viewing: 24th, 29th March and 5th April all at 12.30pm



This traditionally styled gas centrally heated and double glazed double fronted detached bungalow is in need of modernisation and improvement. The property comprises:- Reception Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage and Gardens. To the side of the property there is a driveway to a yard and buildings. These are occupied by a tenant under a long term lease under the Landlord and Tenant Act of 1954, although there is no formal written lease, at a rent of £116.50 p.m. The lease also extends to the W.C. which although part of the bungalow has its own access, and would be liable for free of charge from the tap adjacent. The buildings on the Land are owned by the tenant. There is a right of way across the driveway in favour of the adjoining land owner.

Guide Price £50,000 plus

Auction

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WS1 4SA**

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LOT 7

3 Pine Close, Wolverhampton WV3 0UT

Viewing: 27th March and 3rd, 10th April all at 12.00pm



A modern mid terraced property with the benefit of gas fired central heating and double glazing set in a quiet cul-de-sac within the established area of Wolverhampton city centre making an ideal purchase for a first time buyer or investor. Set back from the road behind a lawned fore garden with an enclosed rear garden the property comprises:- Enclosed Porch, Dining Area, Kitchen, Lounge, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, W.C.

Guide Price £70,000-£80,000

LOT 10

20 New Street, Sheffield WS4 1QD

Viewing: 24th, 29th March and 5th April all at 11.00am



In need of total modernisation and improvement, this traditional semi-detached house offers plenty of potential for further development. Situated in this convenient and popular residential location the property will ideally suit those looking for a major project. The property briefly comprises:- Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom, Two Bedrooms, Fore and Rear Gardens.

Guide Price £30,000-£35,000





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GLAMIS ROAD, SHORT HEATH

- Three Bedrooomed Detached House
- Double Glazing and Central Heating
- Guest W.C.
- Lounge and Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen and Utility Room
- Conservatory
- Side Garage

OFFERS £169,950



VINCENT STREET, WALSALL

- 2 bedrooomed mid terraced house
- Central heating and extensive double glazing
- Reception hall
- 2 reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with white suite
- Rear garden with pond
- Viewing recommended

OFFERS £115,000



UPPER FORSTER STREET, WALSALL

- 3 bed semi
- Central heating
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom with w.c.
- Foregarden with driveway
- Integral garage
- Good size rear garden

OFFERS £109,995



HODSON AVENUE, WILLENHALL.

- Semi-Detached Residence
- Three Bedrooms
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Detached Garage
- Large Rear Garden

OFFERS £105,000



QUEENS LEA (OFF LUCKNOW RD), WILLENHALL

- Three bedroomed semi-detached
- Double glazing and gas central heating
- Spacious lounge
- Kitchen with large dining area
- Off road parking facilities
- Perfect for first time buyer

OFFERS £104,950

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DICKINSON DRIVE, WALSALL

- Well presented 2 bed town house
- Central heating and double glazing
- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen with hob and oven
- Lobby with downstairs w.c.
- Re-fitted bathroom
- Block paved driveway
- Enclosed rear garden

OFFERS £84,950



COTSWOLD GROVE, COPPIE FARM, WILLENHALL

- Ground floor Apartment for over 55's
- Popular Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
- One bedroom with built-in wardrobes
- Double Glazing & Electric Storage Heating
- Bathroom having shower above bath
- Attractive communal gardens
- Communal parking

OFFERS £54,950 for a 70% share



LODGE STREET, WILLENHALL

- Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Garage & Driveway
- GCH & DG
- Rear Garden

£525pcm



WALSALL ROAD, WILLENHALL

- End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Bathroom, GCH, DG
- En-suite & D/stairs WC
- Parking & Garden

£510pcm



CLOCKMILL AVENUE, PELSALL

- Semi-Detached House
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£495pcm



JESSON CLOSE, WALSALL

- First Floor Flat
- Two Bedrooms
- UPVC DG & GCH
- Kitchen, Lounge
- Bathroom With Shower
- Garage

£495pcm



POPLAR AVENUE, WEDNESFIELD

- Semi-Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Bathroom
- UPVC DG & GCH
- Driveway

£495pcm



ALDERLEY CRESCENT, WALSALL

- Semi-Detached House
- Two Spacious Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen With Hob & Oven
- Conservatory
- DG & GCH
- Two Side By Side Car Parking

£450pcm



KINGSCOURT, WALSALL

- First Floor Flat
- Lounge & Bathroom
- Kitchen With Hob & Oven
- One Bedroom & Parking
- Economy 7 Heating
- Entry Phone System

£395pcm



CHURCH STREET, DARLASTON

- Newly Refurbished
- Ground Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Lounge, Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Double Glazing, Electric Heating

£375pcm



BIRMINGHAM STREET, WILLENHALL

- First Floor Flat
- One Bedroom
- Kitchen
- Gas Central Heating
- Allocated Parking Space

£325pcm



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James Street
Willenhall **NEW**



- Spacious Traditional Semi
- 3 Double Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Part Double Glazing
- Desirable Location Close to Park
- OFFERS AROUND: £175,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Sandringham Avenue
Willenhall



- Three bed detached
- 200ft Rear Garden with Decked Area
- 20ft Lounge
- Guest W.C.
- OFFERS AROUND: £182,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Victoria Street
Willenhall



- Period Terrace House
- 2 Double Bedrooms
- Deceptively Spacious
- No Upward Chain
- OFFERS AROUND: £77,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Delamere Road
Willenhall



- Well Presented Semi-Detached
- 3 Good Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing
- OFFERS AROUND: £134,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Stubbington Close
Willenhall



- 3/4 Bedroom Detached House
- Extended and Much Improved
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain
- OFFERS AROUND: £169,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Memory Lane
Wednesbury **REDUCED**



- A Modern 3 Bedroom Link Detached Home
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Extremely Well Presented Throughout
- Secluded Location within a Popular Estate
- OFFERS OVER: £137,995
- Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Broad Lane South
Wolverhampton



- Impressive Family Home
- Extended and Upgraded
- Sought After Location
- 4 Good Bedrooms
- OFFERS AROUND: £389,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Mill Lane
Willenhall



- Substantial Detached House
- 5 Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain
- OFFERS AROUND: £285,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Seagull Bay Drive
Bilston



- 4 Bedroom Detached Home
- Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
- Overlooking Playing Field
- Central Heating & Double Glazing
- OFFERS AROUND: £215,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Stroud Avenue
Willenhall



- Immaculately Presented
- 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Reception Hallway
- Kitchen
- OFFERS AROUND: £149,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Shepherd Drive
Willenhall **NEW**



- Spacious End Terrace
- 3 Good Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain
- OFFERS AROUND: £85,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Ada Wrighton Close
Willenhall **NEW**



- Well Presented Link-Detached House
- 3 Good Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Garage and Drive
- OFFERS AROUND: £149,995
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Fenmore Close
Wolverhampton



- Extended, improved semi detached
- 4 bedrooms (master with shower cubicle)
- UPVC double glazing
- Gas central heating
- Lounge
- OFFERS AROUND: £169,995
- Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Wolverhampton Street
Darlaston



- Deceptively Spacious Mid Terrace
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing (as specified)
- Lounge
- OFFERS AROUND: £64,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Fawley Close
Willenhall



- 3 Bed Detached House
- UPVC double glazing
- Entrance Hall
- Fitted Kitchen Diner
- OFFERS AROUND: £149,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Granville Street
Willenhall



- Land for sale
- Planning permission for 4 x two bedroom flats
- One bedroom
- Close to Willenhall town
- OFFERS AROUND: £89,995
- Viewing: 01902 633323

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Broad Lane South
Wolverhampton



- 4 Bedroom Detached
- Much Improved
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating & Water Heating
- OFFERS AROUND: £340,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Archer Road
Leamore



- Extended and improved end terrace
- 3 bedrooms
- UPVC double glazing & gas central heating
- Double Glazing
- Shower room & W.C.
- OFFERS AROUND: £144,995
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Constantine Way
Bilston **REDUCED**



- Well Presented Detached House
- 3 Bedrooms
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- No Upward Chain
- OFFERS AROUND: £159,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Lymer Road
Wolverhampton



- 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- No Upward Chain
- Central Heating (where specified)
- Double Glazing
- OFFERS AROUND: £119,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Cedar Road
Willenhall



- Extended Semi-Detached
- 3 Bedrooms with Balcony off Master
- Double Glazing
- Warm Air Central Heating
- OFFERS AROUND: £134,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Crawford Avenue
Darlaston



- 3 Bedcom Mid Townhouse
- Cul-de-Sac Location
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing (where specified)
- OFFERS AROUND: £94,995
- Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Devon Road
Willenhall



- 3 Bedroom Traditional Semi
- Extended and Well Presented
- No Upward Chain
- Central Heating and Double Glazing
- OFFERS AROUND: £114,950
- Viewing: 01902 633323

Birmingham Street
Kings Hill, Wednesbury



- A Delightful 3 Bedroom Detached Home
- Double Fronted Period Home with Many Original Features
- Sash Windows (as Specified)
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing (As specified)
- OFFERS AROUND: £179,995
- Viewing: 0121 505 3533

Evans Street
Willenhall



- Semi detached
- 3 bedroom
- No upward chain
- Lounge
- OFFERS AROUND: £90,000
- Viewing: 01902 633323

VIRTUAL TOURS

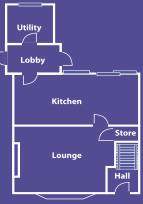


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Bloxwich
Kedleston Close
● Four Bedroom Detached
● Lounge●Dining Room●Kitchen
● Study/Games Room●Utility●En-Suite
● Guest Cloakroom●Conservatory
● Family Bathroom●Detached Garage

In the Region of £239,950



Bloxwich
Field road
● Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Fully Re-Furbished●Two Reception Rooms
● Re-Fitted Kitchen●Conservatory
● Utility Room/WC●Family Bathroom
● Rear Garden●Garages & Workshop

Offers in excess of £200,000



Willenhall
Essington Road
● Four Bed Three Storey End-Terrace
● Double Glazing●Central Heating
● Lounge●Dining Room●Utility
● Fitted Kitchen●Bedroom with En-Suite
● Garage●Brick built Summerhouse

Offers in excess of £199,950



Essexdale
Albany Grove
● Four Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Extended Kitchen●Conservatory
● Family Bathroom●Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage●Carport & Garage●Driveway

Offers in excess of £195,000



Bloxwich
Bay Tree Close
● Three Bedroom Detached
● Lounge
● Fitted Kitchen
● Cloakroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage & Off Road Parking
● Double Glazing
● Gas Central Heating

Offers in excess of £195,000



Walsall
Liskeard Road
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Through Lounge/Dining Room
● Fitted Kitchen●Integral Garage
● Family Bathroom & Separate W.C.
● Rear Garden●Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £180,000



Bloxwich
Selsdon Road
● Three Bedroom Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Kitchen
● Cloakroom W.C.
● Family Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens
● Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £179,950



Willenhall
Wool Lane
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Open Plan Lounge/Dining Room
● Fitted Kitchen●Family Bathroom
● Conservatory●Garage/Workshop
● Gardens●Off Road Parking

Offers in excess of £170,000



Willenhall
Edinburgh Drive
● Three Bed Semi-Detached
● Lounge●Extended Kitchen●Driveway
● Fitted Kitchen●Family Bathroom
● Double Glazing●Gas Central Heating
● Gardens●Front & Rear Gardens

In the Region of £137,950



Rushall
King George Crescent
● Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
● Two Reception Rooms
● Fitted Kitchen●Family Bathroom
● Double Glazing●Gas Central Heating
● Gardens●Driveway●NO CHAIN

In the Region of £130,000



Bloxwich
Drake Road

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge●Kitchen
- Bathroom

- Extended Dining Room
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & Off Road Parking

In the Region of £134,950



Bloxwich **Simmonds Road**

- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage
- Off Road Parking
- In Need of Modernisation
- NO CHAIN

Offers in excess of £100,000



REDUCED **Bloxwich** **Simmonds Road**

- Two Bedroom Top Floor Apartment
- Allocated Parking for 2 cars
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Cloakroom/Storage Cupboard



Walsall **Manorhouse Close**

- Two Bedroom Top Floor Apartment
- Allocated Parking for 2 cars
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Cloakroom/Storage Cupboard

Offers in excess of £90,000



In the Region of £89,950



Willenhall
Mitre Close
● Two Bedroom Mid-Terrace
● Lounge●Diner●Kitchen
● Side Passage●Utility
● Family Bathroom
● Front & Rear Gardens●NO CHAIN

Bloxwich
Goscate Place
● Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
● Lounge●Kitchen●Diner
● Cloakroom W.C.●Bathroom
● Separate W.C.●Front & Rear Gardens
● Central Heating & D.Glazing●NO CHAIN

In the Region of £80,000



Bloxwich
Pershore Road

- Three Bedroom Mid-Terrace
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazed
- Central Heating
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

In the Region of £84,950



Walsall **Ashfield Close**

- Three Bedroom End-Terrace
- Kitchens●L Shaped Lounge/Diner
- Family Bathroom●Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Front & Rear Gardens●NO CHAIN

Offers in excess of £80,000



Willenhall **Argyll Court, Essington Road**

- One Bedroom Apartment
- Lounge●Fitted Kitchen
- Secure Communal Entrance
- Communal Grounds
- Secure Allocated Parking

In the Region of £67,950



NEW **Bloxwich** **Oak Crescent**

- Two Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Two Reception Rooms
- Extended Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Ideal for First Time Buyer/Investor

In the Region £60,000

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NEW

A stunning ultra modern home with five bedrooms, two bathrooms and impressive kitchen. Comprises of two reception rooms, conservatory and front and rear gardens. A viewing is absolutely essential to appreciate the attention to detail that has gone into this home.

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£225,000

REDUCED

A stunning show-home style four bedroom, two bathroom detached home situated on the popular Coppice Farm development. Benefiting from complete refurbishment, conservatory, kitchen and secluded garden. Viewing recommended!

Hunts Lane, Willenhall



£180,000

A stunning three bedroom detached home further benefitting from two bathrooms. Situated in an extremely sought after location in Short Heath on the "Woodlands" development. A viewing is essential and are arranged by appointment.

Thompson Street, Willenhall



£240,000

A well presented and spacious traditional four bedroom, three reception room detached home situated on a sizeable plot within the confines of "The Manor" which is extremely prestigious and sought after since the late 1800's in Willenhall. No upward chain.

Riverbank Road, Willenhall



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A stunning double fronted four bedroom executive detached home situated on the extremely prestigious and sought after "Riverpoint" development. Viewings are strictly by appointment with Dixons.

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£225,000

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Princethorpe Road, Willenhall



£175,000

An immaculately presented three bedroom detached home on a popular development with easy access to Black Country Route and Jct. 10 M6. Benefiting further from en-suite to master bedroom and also from a garage a driveway. Viewing essential!

Balmoral Drive, Willenhall



£127,995

A well presented three bedroom semi-detached home with garage and driveway. Having been extensively improved by the current owners a viewing is essential. Would be a great first time buy! Offered with no upward chain on a popular development in New Invention.

Somerset Road, Willenhall



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Kestrel Grove, Willenhall



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NEW

A two bedroom semi-detached house with garage on the popular Coppice Farm development. Priced to sell call us today to make an offer!!! This house is offered with no chain. Grab a bargain fast!

Market Place, Willenhall



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NEW

A newly refurbished two bedroom flat situated in Willenhall Town Centre. Incredibly spacious this would be an excellent buy2let or for convenient access to shops and amenities. Offered with no upward chain.

7 Gregory Close, Wednesbury WS10 9AB



PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE 7 Gregory Close, Wednesbury WS10 9AB We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £63,000 on the above property. Anyone wishing to submit an offer for this property should contact Dixons Estate Agents, 53 High Road, Willenhall, WV12 4JR 01902 634497 before exchange of contracts.

4 Wordsworth Road, Willenhall, WV12 5JB



PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE, Dixons Countrywide are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £80,000 for 4 Wordsworth Road, Willenhall, West Midlands WV12 5JB. Anyone wishing to submit an offer for this property should contact Dixons Estate Agents, 53 High Road, Willenhall, WV12 4JR 01902 634497 before exchange of contracts.

Partridge Avenue, Wednesbury



£105,000

A well presented three bedroom end-terrace home benefitting from a cul-de-sac location, conservatory and rear corner plot offering a larger than average rear garden. A viewing is essential to appreciate this home. Ideal first time buy! No upward chain!

Bloxwich Road South, Willenhall



£80,000

A traditional style three bedroom residence located close to Willenhall Town Centre & the Black Country Route. Exceptionally spacious having been extended, viewing comes highly recommended. Offered with no upward chain!

Fawley Close, Willenhall



£110,000

A well presented two bedroom semi-detached home situated on the popular "Hadley Heath" development. Having been improved and modernised throughout a viewing is essential. Would make a great first time buy or buy2let!

MOTORING NEWS AND REVIEWS

CHRONICLE

MOTORING

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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

Audi sets pace in battle for prized saloon market

THE BATTLE for sales in the premium mid-sized family saloon market is intense, with the majority of customers choosing one of three German makes – Audi, BMW and Mercedes.

These three makes accounted for 93 per cent of UK premium sales in the UK last year and the competition is getting hotter all the time. Audi is first off the starting block with a new Audi A4 saloon and Avant (estate) model and shortly BMW will introduce a new 3-Series. While the new A4, like all new models is slightly

bigger than the outgoing version, the most significant changes are in the engine range.

Audi is now putting more economical and friendly green engines into the A4 range – and there are 110 different models to choose from! Average fuel consumption overall is dropped by 11 per cent and torque has also been increased making some of the petrol engines very competitive with the diesel versions.

In all there are three petrol engines and six diesel engines. They are all turbocharged and all feature the economy start/stop and recuperation systems.

The most exciting engine, a new 1.8 litre petrol TFSI engine pushing out 170 PS was not available for test driving at the recent Audi launch. On paper it emits 21 per cent less CO2 than its predecessor attracting a VED of £115 a year and running costs of around 43p per mile. The official combined mpg figure is around 49 but that of course is in perfect conditions.

The diesel range starts with a 134 bhp 2.0 litre four cylinder TDI unit that averages 64 mpg, with CO2 emissions of 116 g/km placing it in band C for Vehicle Excise Duty. The rest of the range takes in 2.0 TDI 163PS, a 177 PS version and two very hot 3.0 litre TDI engines pushing up to 245PS. For those who want

a really 'hot' version to rival the BMW M3 there will be a RS 4 version in September this year.

On my road test of the various vehicles the 2 litre diesel engines were definitely the most enjoyable to drive and are so competent they almost make the 3.0 litre versions redundant. They offer plenty of power ranging from 136PS to 177PS with a choice of six-speed manual or multitronic gearboxes. There are Quattro four wheel drive versions offered with seven speed S tronic twin-clutch also available. Standard equipment highlights include 3-zone climate control, cruise control, Bluetooth and light and rain sensors. There are also the usual three pages of Audi optional extras at extra cost!

The new model feature a new looking bonnet and front bumper, with redesigned radiator grille and headlamps. The cars all feature a new improved electro-mechanical power steering which makes the car easy to manoeuvre at low speeds.

The cabin is excellent and one of the car's high points; it is elegant and sophisticated. The dash sweeps round the driver. There's a new steering wheel to choose from, a new ignition key and the navigation system has been much improved with just four buttons instead of the confusing eight. Overall there is more room in the cabin than in the outgoing model. Only minus points are the pedals which are still off-set to the right. Across the range the price increase for the new models is £200. Prices start at £23,625 for the SE



German marques dominate the premium mid-sized family saloon trade

version of the old 1.8 petrol engine. The new 1.8 litre starts at £25,240, diesels range from £26,555 up to £38,405. The Avant versions add about an extra £1,200.

The A4 comes with a standard three year/60,000 mile warranty but for £34 a month owners can have Audi Complete which covers all services, maintenance and a five year/90,000 mile warranty.

Overall the fresher look of the car will certainly attract new buyers and the A4 is significantly cheaper than the BMW 3-Series – around a saving of £1,500.



The new model has a new bumper, redesigned radiator grille and headlamps

By Brian Vertigen

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*Not available on Expression, ES, ES Tech & Tech line models. **Finance Deposit Allowance not available on Astra GTC. Model shown is New Astra SRi 5dr. Finance provided by Vauxhall Finance, a trading style of GMAC UK plc, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions. Applicants must be 18 years or over. Offer applies to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only excluding B2B). All other customers are excluded. Offer available on orders or registrations before 2 April 2012. [†]Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.

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Big cat ready to pounce on sector

It has already won a handful of awards from both car enthusiasts and industry pundits: now Jaguar's new XJ flagship is 'going large' in the prestige limousine sector.

Luxury cars don't come much bigger than the stretched XJ, which gives its well-heeled owners plenty of room to stretch out in the back and enjoy its climate control, big armchairs and TV and audio toys.

At 5.2 metres, the long wheelbase version is a whole 134mm longer than the standard XJ, making it so roomy that even a former deputy prime minister should be able to manage with only one Jag.

If that isn't enough of a saving, the three litre diesel version provides the effortless performance you'd expect from such a car with fuel economy still on the plus side of 40mpg and a relatively low emissions figure of 184g/km, better than some family hatchbacks.

That's party due to its lightweight, all aluminium construction which also sharpens up its handling compared to some of its rivals. It also has an aerodynamic, couple-like profile which to a degree belies its size.

The surprise is, though, that the sweeping roofline doesn't rob you of space in the rear, as you sink into the deep leather armchairs and stretch out your legs.

It was a bold move by Jaguar to switch so drastically from the iconic XJ outline which has become so familiar over the last 40 years. But the bold move proved successful when the car became the number one choice for British business buyers in its first six months on sale.

Many such cars are, no doubt, bought by those who prefer to travel in the back, their laptops busy on the polished walnut tray table in front of them.

But unlike some of the rolling canal boats in this class in the past, the owners will want to be drivers, too. With the diesel engine's whopping 600Nm of torque and a silky smooth six-speed automatic, the long wheelbase XK wafts along motorways in near silence.

Roadholding abilities

But it can also press you back in the seat with 0 to 62mph acceleration in six seconds, sweeping smoothly and comfortably along twisty A-roads thanks to its inherent roadholding abilities and a combination of adaptive electronic dynamics designed to cope with every eventuality. These are fitted not only for safety but to take some of the load from the driver - but with systems such as the rapid 'flappy' paddle gear change the human behind the wheel is still in control, and can enjoy the dynamics of a fine, powerful car.

Whether you're in the back or the driving seat, the XJ is a car capable of carrying its passengers for long distances in ultimate comfort, and getting them to their destination relaxed and ready for business or leisure.

At £69,520 the Portfolio model tested isn't cheap but it is competitive in its class, as it does come exceptionally well equipped with technical and luxury features as standard. The optional extras were principally an upgrade to the rear seat entertainment pack, including the TV with two individual screens.

All the technical and safety features, and front and rear parking aid cameras, the cruise control and speed limiter to keep you legal, and the soft grain leather seats and tinted, solar glass are among the very long list of standard equipment.

The Jaguar also stands up very well to comparisons with its principal German rivals, in terms of both performance and economy as well as comfort and standard equipment.

Prices for the long wheelbase XJ start from £58,520 for the diesel power 'Luxury' specification. There is also a petrol version powered by the 5.0 litre V8 from the XK sports car starting at £70,950 which may well prove to be the preferred choice in some of the West Midlands company's export markets.

But there's no doubt that the diesel's combination of power, economy and cost-cutting has a very real appeal for European executives of today and tomorrow.



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MICHAEL FRANCIS O'CONNOR (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1936 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 8 Farndon Road Short Heath, Wednesbury, West Midlands WV12 4AU, who died on 22/01/2012, are invited to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before two months and one day from the date of this publication, and from that date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning

Representations can be made online, email: planningservices@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Please note: Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas)
A1990. (Section 73). Applications Affecting a Conservation Area and/or a Listed Building

12/0158/MA

Rev Colin Gibson

FOR: Application for non-material minor amendment to 11/0965/FL - Installation of gates at the top and bottom of existing steps to north-east of the church.

AT: ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH, CHURCH HILL, WALSALL, WS1 3DG

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FOR: Change of use from offices to a single dwelling house with parking and amenity space

AT: 22 BROADWAY NORTH, WALSALL, WS1 2AJ

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FOR: Change of use from Card Shop (A1) to Professional Financial Services (A2).

AT: 10 THE BRIDGE, WALSALL, WS1 1LR

HOME alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 362207

JANE 40s, blonde blue eyed petite build, with ties, WLTM understanding tall, caring man for daytime meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375141

KIRSTY 36 attractive, blonde, seeking open-minded decent male for fun friendship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 373013

SIMI attractive lady with long auburn hair just wants to have a good time with likeminded older guy up to 75yrs. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 368119

DAWN 33yr old female looking for companionship with understanding, non jealous, respectful male 35-55yrs. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363426

RETIRED widow, medium build, loving, caring, genuine, likes holidays, seeks male for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 311151

VERY attractive 18yr old fitness instructor looking to burn some extra calories with older experienced male who thinks he can keep up. 30-60. ACA. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 364311

MICHELLE blonde blue eyed happy female, loves heels and being feminine. OHAC, self sufficient, looking for male for long term romance and more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382089

LUCINDA caring 31yr old single mom sick of school runs and running errands looking for an adult fun and good times with available easygoing male up to 45yrs. ACA. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 368307

JEAN 71, fun loving Shrewsbury lady, seeks caring gent of similar age. GSOH, N/S, nice personality, seeks male for fun relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 373657

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and WLTM male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376565

LAURA 36, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384171

SAFY single female, loves to keep fit and look good, WLTM tall male with GSOH for easygoing relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 368889

RACHAEL 49yrs young slim, caring, sincere and fun loving. WLTM similar male with GSOH for mutual companionship, perhaps more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 381343

ANNA 29yrs old nurse, fit curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking male, well built male to look after, 40-65yrs. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385353

ATTRACTION female, tom boy looks, loves cosy night in with a good bottle of wine and great company, looking for someone to love me. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385454

BETTY fuller figured black female, 26, body confident, affectionate, WLTM older chocolate loving male for daytime meets. Any status. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 389550

STACEY young 20y old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 382091

JENNY blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTM older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375139

WIDOW genuine, 70, kind, caring, N/S, seeks male for friendship, relationship, holidays and outings. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 363133

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 375057

CARLY beautiful slim blonde looking for mature male 50-70yrs for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376569

JANE 45, size 10, looking for a relationship with open-minded man for fun friendship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 380591

JANE 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 372759

CHRIS attractive male, 42, 5ft 10ins, cuddly, dark hair, hazel eyes, likes days out, nights in, seeks attractive female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385243

BOB 61, seeks attractive younger lady for daytime meets. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385121

LONELY caring gent, 64, seeks lady for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385025

GENUINE male, 54, own home, seeks female, any age for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 368871

PAUL young energetic 60yrd old, seeks slim, attractive lady, 55-60 for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376485

TONY 61, medium build, medium build, short hair, N/S, no ties, honest, likes sports, cinema, countryside, DIY, seeks female, 20-60 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 332453

JEFF 60's, WLTM petite female, 40's for nights out, walks, camping, holidays, weekends away etc. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 385695

STEVE 55, seeks older lady, 60-70 for fun. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 389674

KARL 40, fun loving, caring, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 389662

DANIEL 49, tall, attractive, GSOH, seeks lady for fun relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384583

MALE 58, 5ft 8ins, medium build, short hair, GSOH, seeks female for fun relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376921

JEFF 63, tall, fresh looking, fit, N/S, nice personality, seeks female. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 376459

ATTRACTION tall honest guy, 48, polite, respectful with GSOH, seeks female for fun relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 371823

47YR old musician, thoughtful, tall, seeks quiet, easygoing lady, 40-47 for mellow relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 384401

47YR old man, thoughtful, tall, seeks quiet, easygoing lady, 40-47 for mellow relationship. Tel No: 0907 004 4190 Box No: 311892

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SPORT

Villa easy winners despite a fightback

Pelsall Villa 4 Castle Vale 2

PELSALL claimed a comfortable win in the Midland Combination Premier after scoring twice in the first 10 minutes.

The opener took just three minutes to arrive, Daniel Battison heading home after a free-kick. He added a second from the penalty spot after Alex Rooffe was brought down.

Pelsall worked the ball well and sent Drake away down the right but his cross was headed straight at the keeper by Lewis. Drake then had a volley saved after a cross from Ash Lawley.

Pelsall's third came just after the half-hour when Drake provided an inch-perfect ball to send Lewis away. He unleashed an unstoppable shot from the edge of the penalty area. Villa had another chance when John Hawley drove through from midfield but shot high.

Battison, seeking a hat-trick, volleyed over before Phil Gayle found Drake wide on the right. His pull-back was dummied by debutant Keenan Mehan Richards and new-boy Courtney Smith's chance was blocked.

Vale, who had had few chances, got themselves back in the game with two second half goals. But Pelsall put the game to bed with five minutes remaining. Battison put Rooffe in and from 25 yards he buried his shot.

Tigers roar to victory in fine style

Cresswell Tigers U9 4

Ashmore Park Rangers 1

A FINE all-round display saw the Tigers victorious with goals from Jake Percival (2), Tyler Bishop and Jack Humphries.

Some excellent goalkeeping from Cresswell's player of the match Joshua Humpage restricted Ashmore Park Rangers to just one consolation goal.

Cresswell Tigers U9 0

FC Premier 0

This one-sided match saw the Tigers do everything but score.

Cresswell player of the match Harrison Hughes was always a threat going forward from defence.

But FC Premier defended well and held out for a draw.

Revenge sweet for Pics after a long journey

REVENGE was sweet for Rushall Olympic.

They exacted swift retribution on a Kendal Town side who had turned a 2-1 deficit into a 3-2 win in the West Midlands the previous weekend.

On Saturday, the return fixture saw the Pics make the long trip to the Lake District to take swift revenge over the Cumbrian outfit in the Evo-Stik North Premier.

Pics took the lead after 25 minutes. A long throw from Jonny Haynes was flicked on by Nick Amos and Ahmed Obeng has on

Kendal Town 1 Rushall Olympic 3

hand to nod the ball home. A second could have come soon after, when an Alex Melbourne cross was met by pacey front man Obeng four yards out but a bobble saw his finish sky over the bar.

The officials weren't endearing himself to either set of supporters, as their attempts to let the game flow seemingly lead to an increasing intensity in the challenges and an increase in tension.

This culminated when a typi-

cally combative challenge from Amos was seemingly followed up by the veteran getting with a boot to his mid-section.

Play was stopped as the Pics assistant boss received treatment – one of numerous trips onto the field by the physio – but play was restarted with a drop ball, despite heated debates among the players.

Kendal were the architects of their own downfall, as a breakdown of communication between

Dootson and Joseph allowed Obeng to deftly slot home into an unguarded net, from the narrowest of angles, to give Rushall a 2-0 lead.

In the second half, Rushall were playing up the slope and, despite the best efforts of their hosts, they created more chances on the break.

Melbourne's first-time volley forced a fine save from goalkeeper Craig Dootson, who was still suffering from the clash with his own centre-half in the build up to the Pics second goal.

It seemed that Rushall's staunch defensive work had blunted Kendal's best efforts but, with 87 minutes on the clock, Kendal raised memories of the previous week's comeback when Matt Jackson's daisy-cutter found the bottom corner to make it 2-1.

But the Pics made the game safe after Craig Bannister broke through the defensive line.

His pull back evaded the home sides defence to allow Obeng to finish from six yards to achieve his hat-trick and complete the away victory.

Trap door opening under the Lockmen

Tipton Town 4 Willenhall Town 1

THE injury-hit Lockmen failed to hold on to a lead for the fourth time in five games as relegation from the Midland Alliance loomed large after this Black Country derby defeat.

Willenhall broke the deadlock on 14 minutes. Mattie Dorgan saw his through-ball flicked onto Ashley Granville, who closed in on goal, controlled and fired across Neil Price.

Hard-working Tipton battled back although there was an element of good fortune when skipper Dave Bate levelled, his 20-yard drive taking a big deflection past keeper Matt Flynn.

The home side began to get on top and it was no surprise when they took the lead when unmarked Rory McFarland headed home from a 44th-minute corner.

The next goal was always going to be crucial and it went the way of Tipton, Andy Westwood firing home from a long throw into the box on 54 minutes. It could have been worse for Willenhall when Flynn upended Leigh Downing in the penalty area. But Flynn redeemed himself, flinging himself full length to stop Downing's spot-kick.

The home side looked most likely to score and did just that when substitute Max Black blasted home with two minutes left.

Slacking is no option at Bloxwich

Bloxwich 7 Leek 0

BLOXWICH Ladies hockey thirds, who secured the league title last week, were determined to continue their winning ways.

Positive play, clean passing and great movement round the D led Sharon Hill to yet another hat-trick.

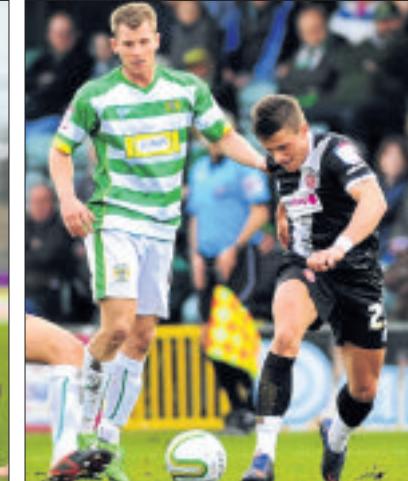
The defence did well and saw off two penalty corners.

A fine pass from Sharon Beck to clear a penalty corner went to Mandy Jeffrey, two further passes and it was finished off with a goal for an interval score of 4-0.

Bloxwich continued to dominate in the second period, despite the keeper's efforts. Jeffrey and Langley both scored and Hill got her fourth.



Walsall's Emmanuel Ledesma takes avoiding action at Yeovil



Florent Cuvelier in possession for the Saddlers

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Runner in Olympic sprint to aid charity

A WALSALL runner will be sprinting on the Olympic stadium 100m track in London next month.

Maria Kavalieratos, aged 24, will be running for charity with 21-year-old Jess Veltmann of Wolverhampton.

They are hoping to raise £400 for the Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity.

Earlier this year they signed up to the organisation's Gold Challenge, pledging to tackle 30 Olympic sports between them including archery, football, canoeing and horse riding.

They were chosen by the charity to run the 100m at the first official event at the Olympic Stadium organised by the Gold Challenge.

Veltman said: "I am thrilled to be one of the first people to run on the 100m Olympic track – it's an incredible opportunity!"

Breakthrough Breast Cancer researches causes of the disease and treatments.

To join the Gold Challenge, visit the website breakthrough.org.uk/gold-challenge, email activeevents@breakthrough.org.uk or call 0207 280 4289.

All stars to take on Old Boys side

ALDRIDGE Cricket Club will welcome the footballing fraternity on Sunday when the Aston Villa All Stars team face a Walsall Phoenix Old Boys side.

The two will kick off at 2pm in a friendly at the Stick & Wicket Club to raise funds for Phoenix, which was formed in 1897 and has eight regular junior and senior teams.

Villa can pick from a squad of their past players such as Gordon Cowans, Colin Gibson, Tony Morley and Des Bremner, who won the European Cup with the club in 1982.

Pat Heard, Martin Carruthers and Bryan Small are also likely to be involved in the squad, which is bossed by ex-Villa defender and former Walsall manager Chris Nicholl.

The rest will be subject to availability but many former England internationals have turned out in the past. Tickets are £3 for adults and £2 for under-16s. Details on 07803 297 125 or 07400 433 373.

Toughest task to date at Delves Road

WALSALL firsts face a big task at Delves Road on Saturday when they try to inflict a first defeat of the season on neighbours Sutton Coldfield. The visitors have been winning by 40 points on a regular basis.

But Walsall are pushing hard for a final top three position in Midlands One West.

The club had only one senior game last weekend, the seconds winning 12-7 away to Trentham firsts who play in Lancashire Division Two. The visitors had a slight wind and slope advantage during the first half, and proceeded to exert a great deal of pressure on the hard-working Trentham outfit.

Although Walsall controlled the game, a

combination of good defence and poor handling by the visitors kept Trentham in contention. Lock-forward Mike Benson made the breakthrough with a well-taken try.

The visitors maintained their territorial supremacy in the second period and stretched their lead when David Mott produced a neat break and crossed for a try which Andy Hawkins converted.

The game then disintegrated with both sides having repeated yellow cards. Trentham, however, did get a late score after a rare excursion into Walsall territory.

Continual infringements meant little was seen of Walsall's usual free-flowing style but the win keeps them top of the second team league with four games to play.

Walsall U16 8 Burntwood 7

Walsall edged a fiercely-contested match by a single point.

After weathering an early storm, they began to show some confidence in their attacking play and Travis Duncan powered through to score the first try of the game.

Connor Pitt put over a well-struck penalty to give his team an 8-0 lead. However, the opposition came back strongly and found a rare hole in the Walsall defence.

They broke through to score a converted try to set up a tense second half.

It was tense throughout but fly-half Pitt's positional kicks enabled Walsall to put a great deal of pressure on a hard-tackling Burntwood defence.

There was no further scoring and Walsall secured the narrowest of victories.

Walsall U12 60 Bromsgrove 5

Walsall were too strong for a weakened Bromsgrove side in three 15-minute games and scored 12 tries with Joel Pepper, Nico Watkins, Rhys Gaddu, Jamie Harding, Henry Lavin, Rory Rollason and George Perkins all crossing the line.

Free kit is offered as league set to kick off

A NEW football competition is to start up in Walsall.

The league, operated by Europe's largest five and six-a-side provider Leisure Leagues, will run on Tuesdays at Shelfield Academy between 7-9pm.

It is being laid on in addition to the long-standing Monday league at the same venue.

Games will last 40 minutes and will be officiated by a qualified referee. All equipment is provided.

Free entry and free kit is available to all teams, and the winners and runners-up get the chance to play in the national six-a-side tournament.

League manager Sunny Mahal said: "The fact we are in a position to start the new league really is down to the hard work of the referees and staff there, not to mention the commitment of all the players."

"We are continually taken aback by the appetite for football that the people of Walsall show and we are delighted that we are able to help them."

Mahal said facilities at Shelfield are first-class. "We are delighted we can make use of them," he added.

For details, call 0845 230 2340 or email info@leisure-leagues.net

Last-kick goal is a draw clincher

Silverdale Throstles U9 1 Tipton Youth 1

THE Throstles took the lead before half-time. Joe Daniels' through ball set up Ben Stanley for his 11th goal of the season.

Silverdale, with Keelan Pugh excellent in midfield, could not get the vital second goal and Tipton equalised with the last kick.

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WALSALL manager Dean Smith has revealed he will try to tempt Emmanuel Ledesma to stay at the Banks's Stadium beyond the end of the season.

The Saddlers boss is keen on keeping his returning star, after the Argentine ace re-signed for the club for the remaining 11 games last week.

Ledesma, who left Walsall last summer after 10 outings, started in last Saturday's luckless 2-1 defeat at Yeovil.

And Smith confirmed he will seek talks with the playmaker to try to nail down a fresh deal.

He said: "It's something we are going to chat about at the end of the season. He's looking for something more permanent, and, hopefully, we can do that."

"He came in, linked up well last Saturday and he got into some great positions. He took a while to get on the pace of the game but, once he did, he did well."

"We thought we would throw him in. He trained well, looked bright and we had a behind-closed-doors friendly and he played in that. He's got a great touch and great ability and I thought he linked up well with Jon Macken."

Smith offered the 23-year-old a contract after he helped the Saddlers to their Great Escape last season, but he opted to return to Argentina.

His last club was second division outfit Defensa Y Justicia in his homeland before returning for a third spell in England, having previously been on loan at QPR.

Ledesma, who is wearing squad No.28, trained with the squad last week, before penning a deal on the Friday to boost Smith's attacking options.

WALSALL WOOD fell to a home defeat courtesy of two penalties, both converted by visiting goalkeeper Scott Furlong.

Furlong's accuracy from the spot aside, Coventry had only one shot on target but still took the Midlands Premier points.

Wood squandered a host of scoring chances after taking the lead on 10 minutes when Andre Gonzalez played the ball forward and a defensive header was intercepted by Drew Aiton, who chipped Furlong.

But the visitors equalised after 23 minutes when Ricky Cutting won a penalty and Furlong ambled forward to despatch the spot-kick.

On 67 minutes, a long ball forward was again collected by Cutting on the left of the box. He held the ball up and was clattered from behind for a second penalty, again put away by Furlong.

Sport Academy boost for job seekers

YOUNG unemployed people are taking advantage of the chance to learn new skills as part of a scheme backed by Walsall FC.

Fifteen teenagers have signed up to the Sports Academy which is organised through Walsall Adult and Community College.

It aims to give learners who, at the time of enrolment were not in employment, education or training (Neets), the chance to gain qualifications in the likes of sport coaching, health-related fitness sessions, as well as improving their English and Maths.

Ian Higgins, sport, health and wellbeing pathway leader for Walsall Adult and Community College, is the main tutor for the Sports Academy.

He said: "All of the learners on the programme are making good progress and we're confident that this could be the making of them."

Young people interested can call (01922) 663000 or send an email to info@wacc.ac.uk



Sport, health and wellbeing pathway leader Ian Higgins with the youngsters

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